

Crisis at State Park

By FIA CLENDINEN

Warrandyte State Park has had its operations budget slashed by 90 percent.

It is also being suggested around town that the depot at Pound Bend might be closed. The state government has emphatically denied this possibility.

The threats to Warrandyte's much loved State Park have been raised by several well-known locals, including MP Phil Honeywood.

Last month Mr Honeywood made a speech to parliament in which he stated, "the concern that is being expressed to me ... is that the park's budget has been cut to the point that it is no longer allowed to employ outside contractors."

Mr Honeywood said the new situation meant, "rangers are now doing the

work that has always been done in the past by contractors. For example, maintenance, repairing of fences, fox and rabbit baiting; and those rangers are not able to do the work that they are employed to do, which is looking after flora and fauna and ensuring that the situation is patrolled appropriately."

Mr Honeywood said his other concern about Warrandyte State Park was the "very strong rumour" that the depot at Warrandyte State Park was to be shut down.

Mr Honeywood's fears were reiterated by local resident Alan Noy. Mr Noy runs a business called "Indigenous Design", which provides environmental services to a range of organisations including Warrandyte State Park.

Mr Noy told the *Diary* that by his estimate, the operations budget this

year at Warrandyte State Park had been reduced from around \$100,000 to \$11,000. He said this figure had been verified from a variety of sources.

"Warrandyte State Park is not unique," Mr Noy said. "This has happened across the metropolitan parks."

Mr Noy also said that the rumour the depot was facing closure was well known amongst people close to Warrandyte State Park. "If we lose that we lose a great resource," he warned. He stressed that the rangers at Warrandyte State Park were some of the "most progressive we've seen in the parks system".

Flora Anderson, spokesperson for Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP), said she had also heard of the 90 percent reduction to the operations budget.

She said FOWSP was seriously worried by the reduction to the budget.

"Because the implications are that conservation programs will be cut drastically," she said. "And on top of that it would affect the nursery operations. We are working our way through that. But I can't see how we're going to work our way through stopping in mid-stride the weeding program. Because the weeds will love that, won't they? It's a shame. They are ignoring the long term effects of this."

Ms Anderson said FOWSP had been given no guarantee that funding would be restored to former levels.

FOWSP has been unsuccessful in its grant applications to Parks Victoria this year. One was a joint application with RMIT University for funding to develop a research base at Stane Brae, the other for assistance with the publication of a colour brochure on fungi, mosses and lichens.

Flora Anderson said she was not

aware of any reports of imminent closure of the depot. "I haven't heard that. But all I can say is that rumour was going the rounds a few years ago and I am wondering why it would resurface. There might be something behind it, I hope not."

A spokesperson for John Thwaites, Minister for the Environment, Water and Victorian Communities, categorically denied that there is any prospect of the depot at Warrandyte State Park being closed.

Regarding the cuts to the operations budget, the spokesperson said, "We are unable to clarify that as we don't know where these figures come from. However it is a fact that Parks Victoria's budget across the state has received a boost."

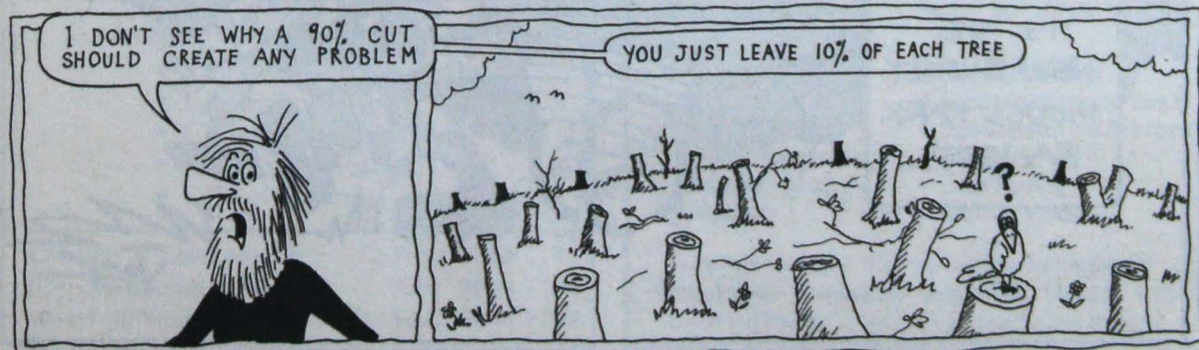
● **Community defends bushland: Page 5**



Spring in bloom: Warrandyte market earlier this month. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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WARRANDYTE DIARY

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Copy closes last Friday of each month

OUR NEWSPAPER

The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The Diary carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 3900 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra River, some 24km from Melbourne. The site of the first official gold discovery in Victoria—in 1851—it soon established its character as a small, self-sustaining community set in a beautiful river valley. Around 1900 the miners, orchardists and tradespeople were joined by a number of young painters who were founding the Australian nationalist arts tradition. Although now a commuter suburb of Melbourne, the natural beauty, community spirit and sense of independence of Warrandyte has been largely retained. This newspaper is the voice and true expression of that spirit.

Insomniac koalas don't often knock on doors in Ripponlea

Being a city girl (Ripponlea, to be precise) who moved to Warrandyte just six months ago, Karen Reid was quite unprepared for the critter that came calling at her Yarra Street home in the early hours of September 16. It was about 4am when Karen and partner Justin Purser were woken by footsteps on their front verandah. A burglar perhaps? Or maybe one of those thylacines so prevalent here? Whatever it was it actually knocked on the sliding glass door — which Karen and Justin opened to a large koala, which blinked at them and immediately climbed the door. And there it sat for half an hour, looking in at them as they looked out at it. It was a bit early yet for breakfast, but Karen and Justin thought they may as well while they kept their visitor company. Eventually abandoning his perch on the door, the koala spent the next hour pacing the verandah, allowing himself to be patted and trying in vain to scale a fence. Justin eventually ushered it out back and their new-found furry friend was last seen climbing a big pine tree which he had presumably mistaken for a gum. Karen reckons he must have overdosed on eucalyptus.

Jenny Chapman never locked her faded blue 1977 Mazda when she parked it and wound up the windows only if it was raining because she figured you'd have to be certifiable to pinch it. But she really loved that car. Jenny had been driving it for 20 years since acquiring it from brother-in-law Glenn Martin by way of brother Brian, but its long-expired use-by date caught up with it last month and it had to go. And gone it is, to that big wrecker's yard in the sky. Thanks to Irish Les the used-car salesman, her near neighbour in Taroona Avenue, Jenny is now driving a very respectable 1984 Volvo station wagon and yes, she



Left: Jenny Chapman and her new wheels. And no Volvo driver jokes please!

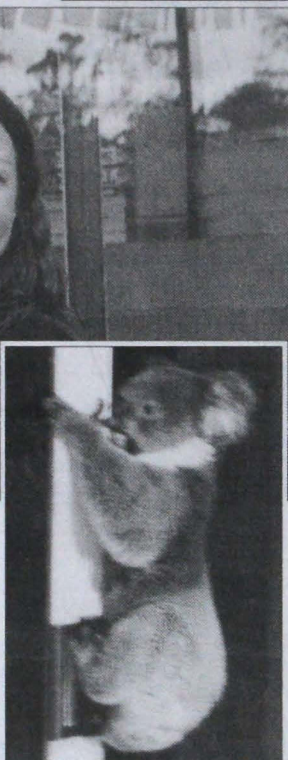
IN RED & WHITE



Karen Reid, Binki the pup and the koala that wandered into their lives

locks this one and winds up the windows. And was she sad to see the last of the faithful old Mazda? "Very sad," she said. "It was the longest relationship I've had by a long way."

Can those Lions Club Opp Shop ladies read an upcoming AFL Grand Final, or what? On the eve of September 27's Big One, the long-running front window footy display of scarves, jumpers and sundry other club accessories was replaced by a small army of Barbie dolls. Was this the ladies' way of telling us that one of tomorrow's teams was going to play like a bunch of girls? Well, one did, didn't it? And we all know which one, don't we?



Diary advertising/accounts manager Rae Danks heard the most fascinating conversation in her garden the other day between two sulphur-crested cockatoos. One was screeching the raucous nonsense which is a cockatoo's wont, the other chipping in regularly with a refined and polite "Hello". A classic meeting of a bush bird and a refugee from a cage in these parts.

With 20,000 addresses to cover, the transition from two wheelie bins per Nillumbik household to three was never going to be satin smooth and one KG Road family obviously felt neglected and deprived. "This is a RED bin", a sign on their yellow

low bin lied, another notice on the lid appealing for the delivery of such a commodity. And the garbo must have been colour-blind or sympathetic because he emptied it on a red-lit day.

We get lots of extraneous mail here at the Diary office, but few as far off course as the brochure that hit the desk the other day from Sydney-based RED Australia. Addressed to the "Warehouse Manager, Warrandyte Diary", it offered us all kinds of "safety solutions for your loading dock". Heck, we don't have such a manager and we certainly don't have a loading dock, but we've filed the brochure away in case the burgeoning Diary empire should one day expand into warehousing.

We also got an invoice from internet service provider Vicnet for eight cents (including GST of one cent). Seeing as how it cost them 50 cents for the stamp, we really don't know why they bothered. But then advanced economics were never really our bag.

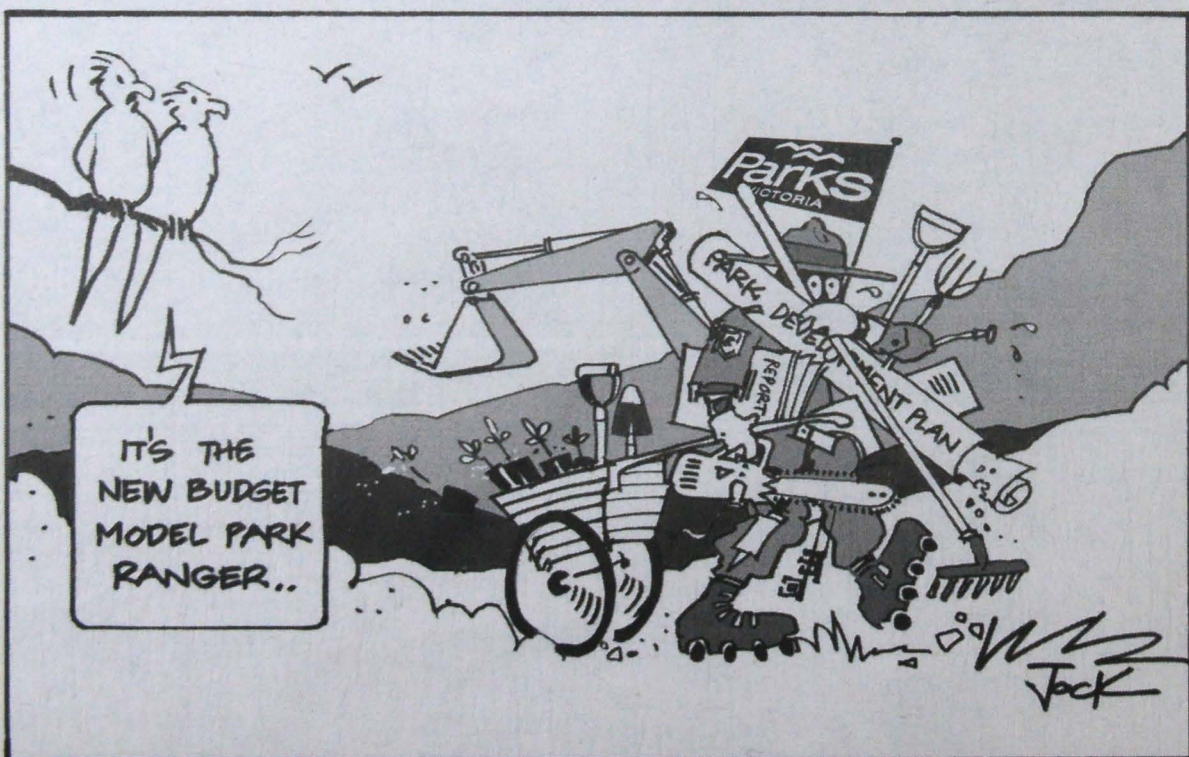
We showed you last month a striking painting under the bridge — that of a life-size bloke who could have stepped out of the 1940s, '50s or any old time — and sought your help in tracing its origin. No replies, but it doesn't matter now because the guy has walked. Gone. Disappeared. Now who'd wipe out a thing like that? Someone who doesn't know the difference between an eyesore and a work of art.

Do you fancy a hoary sunray, then? You should. It's a beautiful yellow daisy-type wildflower which would look a treat in your garden and it's available as we speak from the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend (Melways reference 23 C 10). And while you're there, suggests native flora guru Joan MacMahon, you might also like to pick up the slender or cluster pomaderris (an ideal shrub for a shaded site) and the swamp gum, which, as its name suggests, copes very well with wet ground. The nursery is open from 10am to noon on Thursdays.

Smokey Joe

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Fish: official promises

Yarra golf course proceeding under strict guidelines

By DAVID WYMAN

The controversial Henley golf course project, on the Yarra flood plain at the Bend of Islands in Kangaroo Ground South, will go ahead but with strict conditions to prevent pollution and damage to fish habitat in the river.

The project has been of great concern to many environment groups, including the Friends of Warrandyte State Park, the Bend of Isles Conservation Group, the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, Friends of the Earth, Native Fish Australia and many others.

Main concern has been the impact of the golf course, during and after construction, on the ingress of soil and sediment, and fertiliser and herbicide residue, into the river, impacting on the unique population of native fish—Macquarie Perch, Australian Grayling and Murray Cod—in the river downstream to Warrandyte. The perch and grayling are listed as threatened nationally.

The Federal Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Dr David Kemp, has assessed the Henley golf course project under the provisions of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, which embrace nationally threatened fish species.

Dr Kemp approved the project on September 16 after a long period of assessment by his departmental staff.

The developer of the new course is Yarra Valley Golf Pty Ltd, who have al-

ready developed the St John golf course on the other side of the Yarra at Wonga Park on the former St John of God rural centre property, abutting Lower Homestead Road. Apart from the established 18-hole St John golf course, the site is equipped with a hotel, large clubhouse, housing (mainly condominiums) and other facilities.

Because the St John site is hilly terrain, stormwater run-off had to be strictly controlled and purified using lakes and vegetated pollutant traps. But the Henley course, north of the river, is on fairly flat land which will require massive earthworks during the development of the course.

Minister Kemp's conditions of approval require Yarra Valley Golf to:

- Construct the golf course in accordance with the approved site plan.
- Develop an environmental management plan which sets out vegetation management, erosion and sediment control, and water quality measures.

- Develop an integrated pest management strategy.
- Provide an annual certificate stating compliance with the approval conditions.

Melbourne Water is the "delegated flood plain manager" and has "placed necessary conditions on the proposal. They are confident the development won't impact on the quality of water



Henley golf course monitoring should maintain Yarra water quality. (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

in the river, or what lives in the water", according to Sam Prenesti.

Mr Prenesti told the *Diary* that Melbourne Water had provided input into the environmental management plan endorsed by Nillumbik Shire Council to ensure that siltation was controlled during the construction of the Henley course.

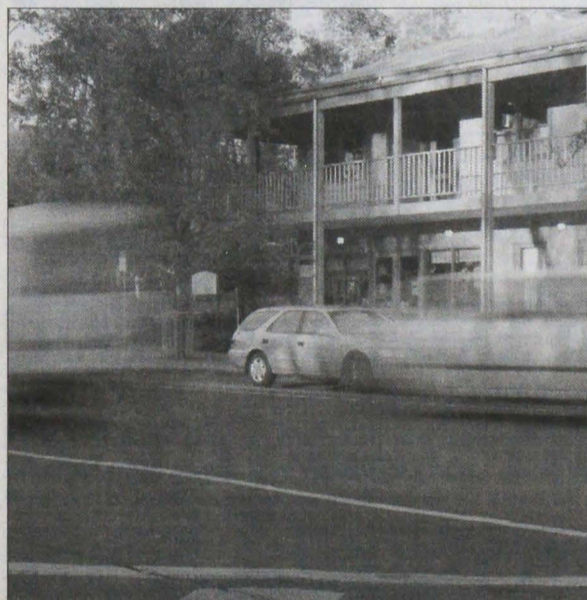
"The plan includes silt fences, sediment traps, staged removal of vegetation and revegetation of areas that have been disturbed," he said.

"An environmental monitoring committee will oversee the implementation of environmental controls during the construction phase. A representative of Melbourne Water will be on this

committee."

The Department of Sustainability and Environment is responsible for the protection of fish habitat in Victoria and it is understood the department will be assessing potential impacts of the development in conjunction with Environment Australia, a federal government body.

Speed limit proposal races on



Yarra Street speedway: proposed 40km/h limit might give us back our main street. (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

By SAM DAVIES and CLIFF GREEN

Local MP Phil Honeywood has joined the call for a 40km/h speed limit through the Warrandyte township, urging transport minister Peter Batchelor to address the issue.

This follows representations to Manningham council and VicRoads from the Warrandyte Police and Community Consultative Committee calling for a system of variable speed signals on Yarra Street. Warrandyte police have supported the call for a reduction in the speed limit. The Warrandyte Community Association also supports the campaign, but would prefer a permanent 40km/h limit rather than variable speed signs.

In a letter to the minister, Phil Honeywood has pointed out that between July 1997 and June 2002, 11 accidents, including four involving pedestrians, occurred along Warrandyte's main street. Mr Honeywood said that

Warrandyte had numerous "special factors" which warranted the 20km/h slow down. These included Warrandyte's status as a major weekend and school holiday destination for tourists. With parking on both sides of the street, "tourists tend to amble across the busy road without realising they are placing their lives at risk".

This problem is exacerbated because the main car park is on the opposite side to the shops.

He said cars gather significant speed down steep side streets and could cause accidents when turning onto the main street.

Another factor he identified was increased commuter traffic from growth suburbs such as Croydon Hills, Croydon North, Warranwood and Lilydale. Some of this traffic travels through Warrandyte en route to the city.

"Their key concern is to get to and from work as quickly as possible—hence they have little respect for the current

higher speed limit through the town," Mr Honeywood said. "A 40km/h speed limit would serve as a significant deterrent for these commuting motorists compared to the current situation."

Last month the Warrandyte Community Association wrote a letter to the *Diary* outlining its concerns with the current speed limit. The association also plans to lobby Danielle Green, ALP member for Yan Yean—which includes North Warrandyte—for support.

LATE NEWS

Manningham council has backed the Warrandyte community in their campaign for a 40km/h speed limit along Yarra Street, operating between 8am and 8pm, seven days a week on a trial basis.

At their meeting on September 30, council resolved to apply to VicRoads for a time-based 40km/h speed limit

from 70 metres west of Whipstick Gully Road to 250 metres east of Kangaroo Ground-Warrandyte Road.

The motion was moved by Cr Pat Young and seconded by Cr Gerard Dale. Councillors Gough and Eisenbise moved to amend the request with the limit set at 50km/h for 24 hours each day of the week. This was lost and the original motion was carried.

In their recommendation, council officers said that "whilst the installation of a 50km/h limit on Yarra Street would be in accordance with the VicRoads guidelines, it is considered that the installation of a time-based 40km/h speed limit on Yarra Street, operating between the hours of 8am and 8pm, seven days a week on a trial basis, using static signs, would be more appropriate and would provide a balance between safety, credibility and mobility."

Ongoing consultation with the local community has been promised.

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How will Bev's garden grow? (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Vote for new garden

Regarding Bev's suggestion re planting the bank opposite the pub. It's a great idea. I'd like to suggest we take this opportunity to plant some of our showy, but not well known local wildflowers. They could be planted in a consciously decorative manner, such as in arcs, swards, swirls.

Plants would need to be labelled or at least a plan provided. We could call it Warrandyte's Indigenous Garden and it would act as a great teaching tool for residents and visitors. Suitable plants would be the pink bells, trigger-plants, rice flowers, sunrays, everlastings,

billy buttons, running postman, creamy candles and some of the more unfamiliar grasses.

It would be a partial replacement for the Manningham Indigenous Garden that came and went very quickly — what a pity and a waste of money.

It was created by Alan Noy of Indigenous Design and Hamish Allan from Currawong Bush Park. It had a short life in a very public spot at the front entry of the city offices. These were soon extended and the garden destroyed. It hasn't been replaced—I wonder why?

Joan McMahon
Bradley's Lane

DEAR DIARY

Looking for family

I happened upon your site whilst searching for a local newspaper in the Doncaster-Templestowe-Warrandyte area. (What an informative site, I have really enjoyed reading it.)

My reason for searching for a local paper is to enquire how to go about contacting descendants of Christian Bloom and Ernstine (nee Simon) married in 1865. Christian and Ernstine Bloom had 14 living children (I have all their names if anyone is interested) and it is their descendants for whom I search. Orchardist/farmer in Doncaster, Templestowe, Warrandyte and Mitcham seems to be the recurring occupation and location.

I am researching a book about the family and can be contacted by email: nsneddon@bigpond.net.au

Neroli Trebeck
by email

We're good sports!

Two whole pages devoted in your September edition to women in sport! It was such a nice change to see more coverage of the success and achievements of Warrandyte's talented young women.

Women have made a consistent and significant contribution to sport at all levels, yet their achievements receive very little coverage from the media. Women's sports and women in general very rarely feature in the newspaper. Congratulations to the Diary.

Lynch Family
Weerona Way

Fond memories of us

Just thought I'd drop a little line to the *Diary* just to say what a fantastic place Warrandyte is.

My family and I came over recently from Bridgend, South Wales, UK. We have family in North Warrandyte (Hamilton Road) and we were staying with them.

The trip was one we'll never forget—a real trip of a lifetime. We went everywhere and did all the usual touristy things—Healesville Sanctuary, Sovereign Hill, Rialto Towers, Carlton Brewery Tour (a must for locals also), William Ricketts, Miss Marples in Sassafras, Melbourne Aquarium etc, etc—we even got the chance to watch an Aussie Rules game at the MCG. None other than Collingwood versus Essendon—the first of the "last eight" round of games. And as I write this we've just heard from Oz

that the Magpies lost in the Grand Final! Shame that, because I was barracking for the Pies!! Our other rellie Nevenka will be distraught!

Anyway the reason I wrote is just to tell you what a wonderful place Warrandyte is. In our stay we saw a lot of it, but the main thing that struck me about the place is its community spirit. I don't know if it's an Aussie thing in general but the people had a real sense of connection with each other—a real good sense of community, to use a Welsh phrase, the people have a real sense of "belonging". Of belonging to each other and to the support of the area and the belief that the upkeep of the area was down to them and not to be left to others.

I loved the calm, open spaces and the friendly open faces. Secondly, can we also extend

huge love and thanks to Tony and Karen Elvin and the kids Eric, Melba and Maggie for putting us up AND putting up with us! Our two-year old daughter Niamh fell in love with you guys in particular Karen, Maggie and Melba, who she still asks after, not quite realising that there is a 13,000 mile gap between us.

They took time off work to look after us and they ferried us everywhere on our daytrips. Their kindness and generosity will be hard to repay.

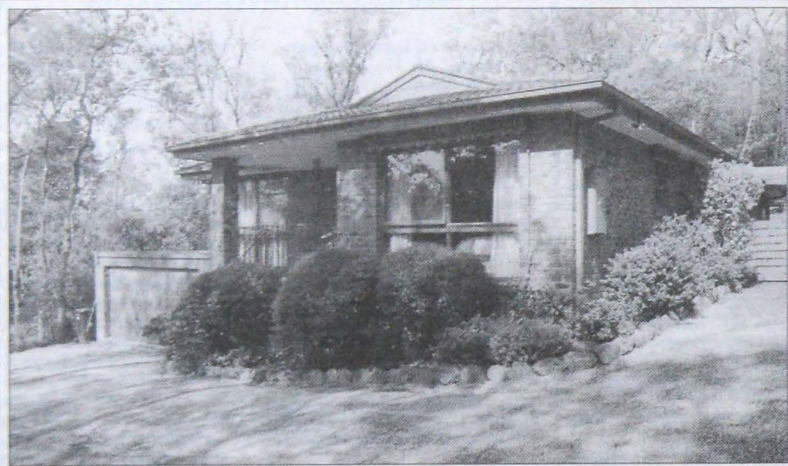
I would love it if you could print this and I know they would be overjoyed to see us in print in their local rag. But if you feel you can't then no matter—I just wanted to tell you that you have a wonderful place to live.

Neill Owen
by email



Happy holiday snap: Neill Owen and his lovely family riding a Melbourne tram.

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Community defends bushland

The crisis currently facing Warrandyte State Park underlines the vulnerability of our natural and historic heritage. SANDY BURGOYNE tracks some of the campaigns this community has waged across three decades, protecting our bush and waterways.



Historic casualty: all that remained of Australia's first youth hostel following the 1991 bushfire. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Rampage of the Red Dragon

Warrandyte's environment has one enemy that ignores public meetings and won't be beaten by a petition—fire.

An outbreak was reported at Pound Bend, in the State Park, one February afternoon in 1991. Although it was burning in open ground it rapidly spread. By the time two units from Warrandyte CFA arrived with the park rangers and their smaller 4WDs the fire was already out of control.

The wind picked up and moved the blaze into the trees. This event was now serious and the CFA was already calling in extra units. Forty more CFA trucks and three pumpers arrived with 12 units from the Melbourne Metropolitan service. Water bombing aircraft were also mobilised. At the peak of the effort more than 350 CFA firefighters and 35 State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers were deployed.

Meanwhile the blaze was tearing through Pound Bend toward the Yarra. The river didn't stop it and the fire started on the North Warrandyte side where it threatened several buildings.

A small cool front and a change in wind direction gave the firefighters the break they needed

and they finally brought the fire under control that night. CFA and SES members continued to work through the night to mop up.

The fire had burnt out 70 hectares of country, much of it in the State Park. Pound Bend had also lost a piece of history—Australia's first youth hostel.

The dilapidated residence was first leased to the Youth Hostels Association in 1940. YHA members restored the house and seven years later it was described as a "first rate hostel". The hostellers went on to build a canoe shed.

The Pound Bend residence was a favourite place for walking, cycling and canoeing weekends. It also hosted the meeting that formed Australia's national youth hostel association in 1947. The building continued as a youth hostel until 1986 when the lease ran out. It was not renewed as hosteller numbers had been dwindling for some time. The old hostel was standing vacant when the bushfire consumed it and the YHA canoe shed.

Fire may ignore public meetings and petitions, but it will respond to a community effort such as that by CFA and SES volunteers.

WARRANDYTE is a precious and special place. Numerous species of native birds and animals live in the bushland, which also has many historic sites. The river Yarra runs through the village and adds to the diversity.

Over the years Warrandyte people have realised their responsibility in caring for this diverse heritage and sought to protect it. The threats were many and came in assorted forms. Requests for subdivision were a common theme, as were land clearings and decisions to fill in the mine shafts. Possibly the most bizarre of these was the proposal to build a dam just upstream from the village. Campaigns were fought, petitions presented and public meetings held—all in defence of the Warrandyte environment.

Often these campaigns were mounted to save a remnant of bushland, such as Scotchman's Hill or the Koorngong. These tracts of land are important wildlife corridors, as well as supporting local bird, flora and animal species. Gradually many of these special places were brought together to form the Warrandyte State Park.

We are justly proud of our State Park. Although today the various sections are now well established, it was only through the work of numerous people in the community that this wonderful bushland jewel was preserved.

Thirty-three years ago, when the *Diary* was founded, these lands were under the control of a bewildering array of government and private ownership. Management was fractured and the land was subject to differing conditions and rules.

The bodies included the Forests Commission, the Department of Lands and Survey, the Mines Department and the State Bank of Victoria. The MMBW (Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works), a large and diverse organisation that supplied reticulated water to most of Melbourne and managed the dams and their catchments, also administered some of the parcels of land.

A proper Warrandyte State Park combining these fragments of land under one management was first proposed in 1968. Residents and environment groups at that time were concerned that the "unique natural and historical attributes of the area would disappear". It was not until 1973 that Rupert Hamer, then the state premier, announced the establishment of the Warrandyte State Park.

However, the locals couldn't relax. Community groups, such as the now defunct Warrandyte Environment League (WEL) continued to scrutinise what was happening with the park. The *Diary* also regularly reported management and government decisions that would affect the park. And there was much to report.

In 1982 enthusiastic locals formed the Friends of Warrandyte State Park to support the work of the park rangers. FOWSP has since blossomed into a group expert in propagating indigenous plants, making nesting boxes, counting koalas, identifying weeds and many other skills.

By the late 1980s it became

apparent that a management plan was needed to control the many usage demands placed on the park. Locals and tourists were in danger of loving their State Park to death. Some residents were unhappy with the resultant plan as it placed limitations on horse-riding and dog-walking within sections of the park.

The Pound Bend park depot narrowly missed out on becoming a hazardous chemical repository for the Department of Conservation and Environment in 1991. The site was ruled out for logistical, not environmental reasons.

In the "worst fire for 22 years" a blaze swept through Pound Bend and destroyed the former youth hostel.

'The threats were many and came in assorted forms'

Parkcare, to promote co-operation between park rangers and the owners of surrounding properties, began in Warrandyte in 1992.

Mid-1995 and the community was back on the campaign trail in the park. The state government had decided to demolish the rangers' houses. Two people, a demonstrator and a *Diary* reporter, were assaulted at the demolition site. All four houses were destroyed.

In mid-1996 the number of rangers was halved. The construction and maintenance crew was also reduced.

In early 1997 there was the possibility that Parks Victoria might close the busy Pound Bend depot. Action by MP Phil Honeywood and FOWSP averted this threat. Later that year Mount Lofty (near Wonga Park) became the easternmost section of Warrandyte State Park.

Mid-1999 the park gained a slightly increased government grant for maintenance.

In mid-2002 Parks Victoria started to close mineshafts without adequately consulting the community. This move was opposed on both historic and environmental grounds.

The Warrandyte State Park stretches from Pound Bend in the west to Mount Lofty in the east. That covers a lot of distance and spreads the park staff very thinly. As park resources continue to be cut back community support through groups such as FOWSP will become even more important to the survival of our much-loved State Park.

CLYDE & McOCKER



'There'll be no more clearances on Scotchmans Hill, Ock!'

Dam busters hit target

The people of Warrandyte have a long tradition of vigorously defending the environment. They take particular exception to anyone who wants to interfere with their river.

Warrandyte seems a most unlikely place to stick a dam, but that is exactly what the state government decided to do in 1973. They even had a pretty name for it—Yarra Brae. This strange decision was a hasty response to a drought of that period.

The engineers had worked out lots of other details. The dam wall, rising 30 metres above the riverbed, would be built about four kilometres upstream from the bridge. It would back up the waters of the Yarra in a shallow lake—neatly inundating the Bend of Isles and pushing the waters past Mount Lofty all the way back to Yarra Glen.

The water from this civil engineering miracle would be "C grade", which means that even after chlorination it would probably be suitable to clean driveways. The Board of Works admitted at the time that the Yarra Brae water would be added to the reticulation system only in "the direst emergency". At that time unsewered blocks of land were being sold in the river's catchment. By this stage the Board of Works had acquired many properties along the length of the projected reservoir.

Predictably Warrandyte met the prospect head on and organised several public meetings, which packed out the Mechanics Institute hall. The Warrandyte Environment League, members of the Bend of Isles community and federal MHR Race Mathews were all drivers of the anti-dam campaign.

When asked what would become of the Yarra downstream from the dam a government spokesman said that a small amount of water would be released to "flush" the river. The community's objections looked beyond simply losing river flow through the village and instead considered the future. One suggestion was for a management plan for the whole of the Yarra Valley. Others were for reducing the per capita use of water in Melbourne and investigating the re-use or recycling of water.

Pushing the dam off the Yarra seemed unlikely when the premier, Rupert Hamer, said that Yarra Brae would be making a significant contribution to Melbourne's water storage by 1981. He added that work would not proceed until an environmental impact statement had been completed.

When the environmental impact statement finally appeared it said that the original dam site would have serious, adverse environmental consequences. The report suggested a smaller dam higher up the river system. Later a pumping station without a dam was considered.

Many years later the phantom of Yarra Brae bestowed a benefit on Warrandyte when the Mount Lofty land, which the MMBW had purchased for inundation, became part of Warrandyte State Park.

Festival risk cover solved?

By SAM DAVIES

Next year's village festival will see a return to its former glory, with the insurance problems that plagued this year's event largely resolved.

Manningham council has agreed to accept insurance policies from the YMCA, Scouts and Warrandyte Police Blue Light Disco to cover certain events considered "risky".

The Warrandyte festival committee will now only have to organise general and marine policies.

Previously, the committee had to provide its own insurance for these events, and have it approved by Manningham council. This led to problems at this year's festival, when the committee was unable to find an insurer willing to cover such events as the billycart derby or dunk-the-teacher.

Committee president, John Boyle, said that council support is the best outcome. "The only policy we had this year was from the Cayman Islands, and that was just unacceptable. The only other possibility would have been for Manningham to run the entire festival, which would have been far too costly. We're now making very good progress, thanks largely to John Bennie and the others at Manningham council," Mr Boyle said.

However, the involvement of pony clubs in next year's festival still remains under a cloud.



Wheellie bin race: insurance doubtful.

Mr Boyle admits they are "very tricky" to insure, and would have to provide their own acceptable insurance to take part. "If they can come up with something, of course they're more than welcome," he said.

The wheellie-bin race is also an uncertain starter, though the committee may be able to arrange for community groups to cover it as a fundraising event.

"I think we'll work around these things," Mr Boyle said. "We just can't be as adventurous as we were 15 or 20 years ago."

With the insurance arrangements largely in place, the committee is now making good progress to meet next year's deadline, the weekend of March 20 and 21. "We've got many new committee members, but we're always looking for more."

The next committee meeting will be held in October. Phone John Boyle, 9844 3120, for details.



Billycart derby: insurance probable.

Nillumbik's bins take out world award

The three-bin rubbish collection system north of the river has played a major role in Nillumbik council winning the prestigious Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) September 2003 Initiative of the Month Award.

The new system, which will divert 80 percent of the shire's waste from the landfill by 2008, includes the establishment of a seven-day-a-week recycling and recovery centre, due to open later this year.

Cities for Climate Protection is an innovative program that supports local governments around the world in helping their communities reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce impact on the environment.

"The Initiative of the Month

Award recognises outstanding projects or programs undertaken in either the community or corporate sector that support the aims of the CCP program," Nillumbik mayor, Cr Lex de Man told the *Diary*.

"We are delighted to have won this award. But our real achievement will lie in the success of council's zero waste strategy.

"Many benefits will flow to the community from our energy reduction initiatives. Apart from saving money, taking part in the CCP program can lead to the creation of new industries and employment opportunities, and opportunities for council to develop partnerships with industry, residents and other governments."

Council program: spring to it...!

With the weather improving it is time to shake off the winter blues, get into the sunshine and enjoy the great outdoors.

To celebrate, Manningham council and the neighbouring municipalities of Banyule and Nillumbik, have put together a regional program of activities called "Spring Outdoors".

"This is the fourth year of the Spring Outdoors program, known for its bent for the unusual," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"Whether riding, walking, listening, eating or talking is your

passion—there is something for everyone this October.

"Join in the 'waterwatch' bike rides, walks and tours, night walks, butterfly and caterpillar counts, tree-planting or catch up with latest issues at the series of environmental seminars scheduled," the spokesperson said.

For a copy of the Spring Outdoors program, drop into the Manningham council municipal offices in Doncaster Road, or contact council's economic and environmental planning unit on 9840 9333.

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Spring into Spring Outdoors in October

Spring Outdoors is a program of regional environmental activities organised by Banyule City Council, Manningham City Council and Nillumbik Shire Council.

Coming up!
ELTHAM COPPER BUTTERFLY CATERPILLAR COUNTS
Come and help with the annual survey of this endangered butterfly at reserves in Nillumbik and Banyule throughout October. All counts begin at 7.00pm (Tuesday 28th will begin at 8pm due to daylight savings), bookings are essential - don't forget to bring a torch!

Tuesday 7th October Western Colony (Melway 22 D5)
Bookings: Contact Nerilee Kerslake 9433 3195

Tuesday 14th October Eastern Colony (Melway 22 D5)
Bookings: Contact Nerilee Kerslake 9433 3195

Tuesday 21st October Pauline Toner Reserve (Melway 22 C5)
Bookings: Contact Jo Nelson 8846 4000

Tuesday 28th October Yandell Reserve (Melway 11 A12)
Bookings: Contact Lisa Pittle 9457 9825

If you can't make it to a count check out the full program of activities on offer throughout October as part of the Spring Outdoors Program by visiting www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au or calling Narelle on 9433 3214.

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Planning rules to cope with bushfire

New planning requirements that address the wildfire risk are contained in a new amendment to the Manningham planning scheme.

Mayor Cr John Bruce said amendment C26 will put in place a wildfire management overlay that would "essentially ensure new developments meet minimum fire protection requirements and provide existing residents with the knowledge to prepare for wildfire."

"Fire prevention is essential in wildfire areas, Cr Bruce said. "The amendment ensures new developments in identified areas meet fire protection needs."

"The amendment also details actions people should take on their properties to protect life and minimise the threat of wildfire."

Council has worked with the regional Country Fire Authority, local brigades and the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee to develop the amendment and prepare the wildfire management overlay map, detailing the areas that would be affected.

The amendment applies to 2300 properties in non-urban areas of Manningham. These have been identified as potentially posing a significant threat to life and property in a bushfire.

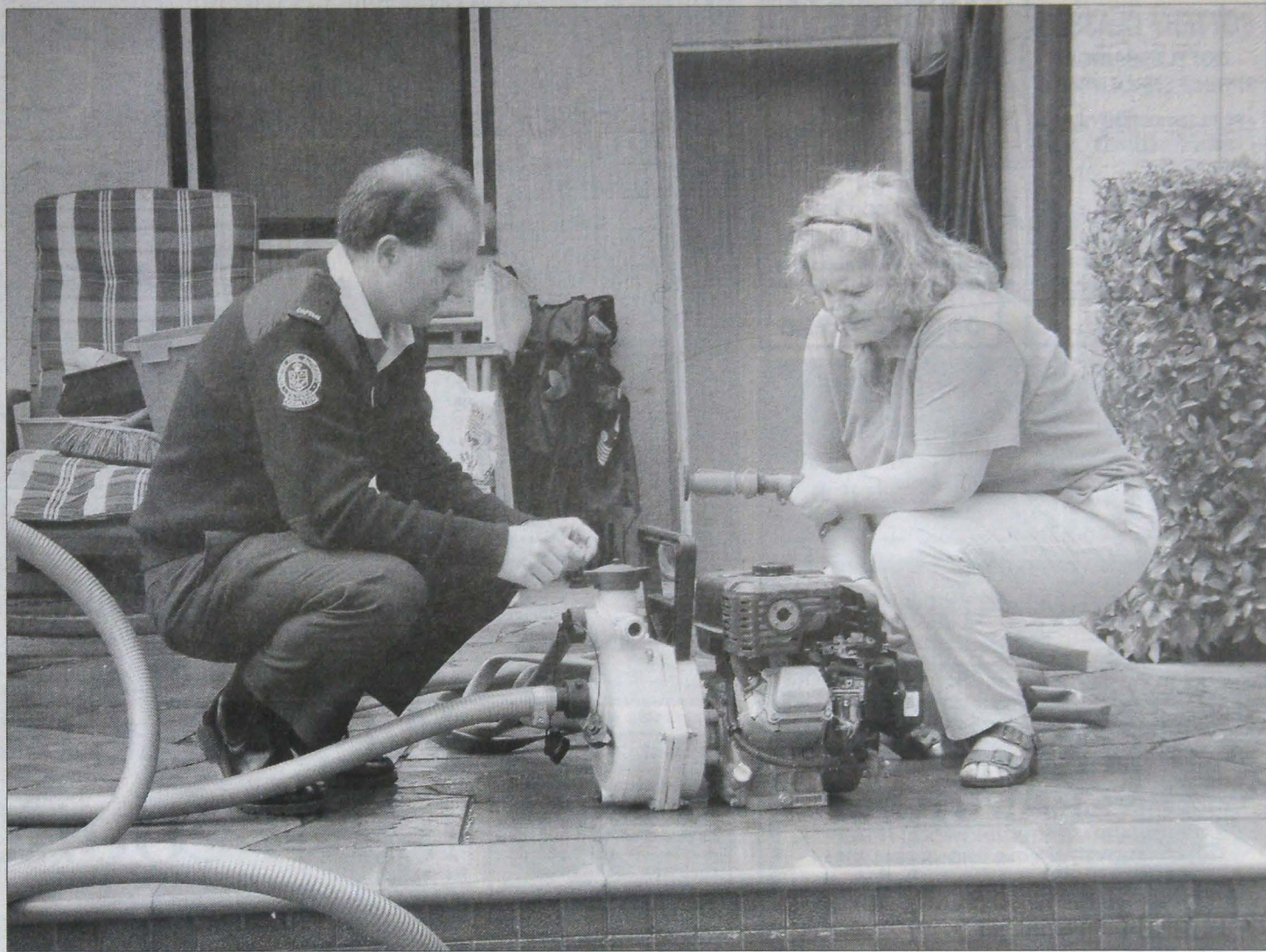
Residents of the properties outlined in the map have already received a letter, map, explanatory report and a CFA fact sheet to inform them of the proposed amendment.

CFA is currently undertaking work across Victoria to align the wildfire management overlays and the bushfire prone areas under the planning and building controls.

CFA fire safety officer, Mr David Chugg, said that proper land use planning can help ensure that future development is more capable of withstanding wildfire.

"What the amendment does is put in place guidelines for new development for fire protection requirements such as ensuring an adequate amount of water, emergency access, appropriate design and siting of new buildings and the sustainable management of vegetation."

"Residents living in the designated wildfire areas will need to comply with the fire protection requirements of the WMO when constructing new dwellings or extensions greater than 50 percent to existing dwellings," Mr Chugg said.



Ready for the worst: Warrandyte CFA captain Shane Murphy demonstrates a poolside firefighting pump to local resident Terri Wheelton. (Picture by Kate Murphy)

Early wildfire season

Recent serious bushfires beyond Orbost have underlined the continuing danger of wildfire in our area.

"Recent rainfall will do little to reduce the risk of bushfires this summer," Kate Murphy of Warrandyte CFA told the *Diary*.

"Rainfall measurements to the beginning of September show that the Warrandyte area is still below that of the same period last year."

During the past month Victoria has experienced a number of days with above average temperatures and high winds. This combination is already causing vegetation to dry.

Captain Shane Murphy of Warrandyte CFA warned locals not to be complacent. "Residents need to ensure that they take the necessary steps now to reduce the impact of a bushfire on their property."

"If residents understand the steps they can take to reduce the threat and impact of a bushfire on their families and property, they can make informed decisions early

rather than dangerous decisions when there is a fire," Captain Murphy said.

Warrandyte CFA is hosting a "Fire Safety and Survival Expo" at the Warrandyte Fire Station, Harris Gully Road, Warrandyte on Saturday, October 25.

"If residents want the latest information and details of fire safety equipment available, we urge them to attend the expo any time between 10am and 4pm," Captain Murphy said.

The expo will feature fire information sessions, and trade stands (some offering discounts for products purchased or ordered on the day). Local police and representatives from the Department of Sustainability and Environment and Manningham council will be present.

"There will be a number of supervised children's activities, allowing parents to attend information sessions and look at trade displays," Kate Murphy said.

Prevention is best protection

The Warrandyte CFA brigades are urging residents to start their annual bushfire season preparation (if they haven't already done so). These should include:

- Reduce fuel around the home—long grass, leaves and twigs should be removed;
- Gutters should be cleaned;
- Move firewood away from the walls of your home;
- Cover vents and crevices with fine wire to prevent sparks and embers entering;
- Make sure under the home is clear of combustible material;
- Ensure access to adequate static water supplies;
- Check and have your fire fighting equipment serviced;
- Most importantly—make sure you have a practical bushfire plan in place. Consider who will be home and when. More than one plan may be needed to cover different scenarios

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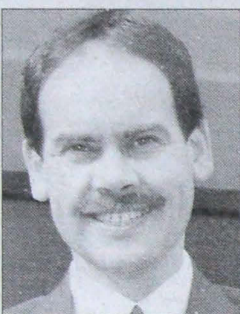
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Warrandyte Community Bank manager Mark Challen.

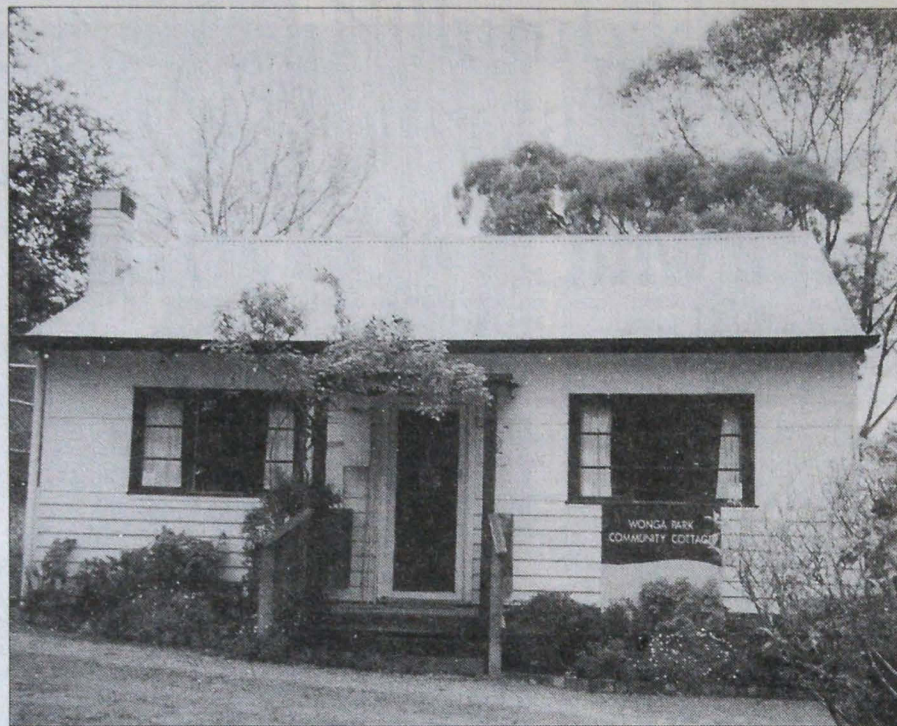
Some lucky customer will soon be opening the one thousandth account at the new Warrandyte Community Bank.

"The board is delighted at this new result of our achievements to date, and thanks the community for its strong support over the past few months," board chairman John Provan told the *Diary*. "The board will be rewarding the one thousandth account holder with a few 'goodies' and is looking forward with interest to see who this lucky person will be."

Warrandyte Community Bank recently reached its \$10million milestone. "It is very gratifying to reach the one thousandth account so soon afterwards," Mr Provan said. "However the board and the staff are not resting on their laurels but are looking forward to growing the business over the next few months."

Shareholders and pledgeholders who have not yet opened accounts are urged to do so soon. "Perhaps they'll be the lucky one thousandth," John Provan said.

"It appears the community has embraced the new bank and accepted that community banking is more than just banking, but is a way to provide economic and social benefits."



Wonga Park's community cottage will soon be integrated into a community centre. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Wonga Park centre is on council's list

Wonga Park is to receive a splendid new integrated community centre valued at \$800,000.

The construction of the Wonga Park Integrated Community Facility will commence in February 2004, with the associated car parking works being undertaken in October 2003.

The project will combine the former Wongaroo Child Care Centre and Wonga Park Community Cottage facility into one centre, and will accommodate the Wonga Park Community Cottage, occasional care facility, Burch Memorial Pre-School, playgroup and Maternal and Child Health Service.

Manningham mayor, Cr John Bruce, told the *Diary* that the project had been "developed with extensive community consultation and will bring major benefits to families and children in Wonga Park".

Cr Bruce said the integrated community facility will:

- Strengthen the social cohesion of families within the Wonga Park area;
- Improve facilities to meet community needs and the requirements of relevant regulations;
- Integrate a number of children's services for the Wonga Park area;
- Improve access to the site, in compliance with the requirements of the Disability and Discrimination Act;
- Increase the efficiency of floor space utilisation resulting from sharing of dual purpose spaces between the various user groups;
- Provide improved and formalised car parking; and
- Address occupational health and safety concerns associated with the existing isolated operation of Maternal and Child Health Service in the Wonga Park area.

Sports clubs shade offer

Warrandyte MP Phil Honeywood is urging local sporting clubs to apply for a VicHealth Portable Shade for Sports grant in the forthcoming round of funding. Guidelines and application forms are now available for grants of up to \$2500 to fund portable sun structures.

The Portable Shade for Sports grant program aims to encourage increased participation in physical activity by assisting clubs to provide healthy sporting environments.

"In previous years, many of our sporting clubs from a broad range of sports have benefited by similar funding programs.

This gives our local clubs an opportunity to encourage safe sport by promoting sun protection," Mr Honeywood said.

Funding grants will be allocated over the next 12 months with staggered application closing dates. For eastern Victoria, which incorporates the local council boundaries of Maroon-dah and Manningham, applications close on April 30, 2004. Applications are now open for both regions.

Guidelines and application forms are available from Phil Honeywood's office at 44 New Street, Ringwood or by phone on 9870 7396.



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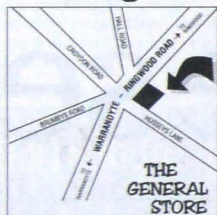
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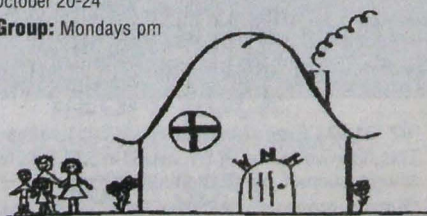
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- Meditation:** Thursdays pm
- Belly Dancing:** Tuesdays pm, Thursdays am
- Kids Drawing:** Mondays pm, Tuesdays pm
- Warrandyte Walkers:** Mondays am
- Professional Writing:** Wednesdays pm
- Knitting Circle:** Tuesdays am
- Strong Women Stay Young:** Tuesdays am & pm, Fridays am
- Gardening Club:** Thursday pm (monthly)
- Getting to Know Heide (Museum of Modern Art):** Tues am
- Tai Chi:** Tuesdays pm
- Friday Lunch & Discussion:** Friday pm (monthly)

- Public Speaking:** Mondays pm
- Contemporary Dance:** Fridays pm
- Children's Dance:** Fridays pm
- Lolly Wreaths for Xmas:** Wednesdays pm
- Computer Access for the Visually Impaired**
- Brunch for Breast Cancer:** October 27
- Men's Health Week:** October 20-24
- Community Singing Group:** Mondays pm

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Warrandyte Neighbourhood House gratefully acknowledges funding from the following organisations: Manningham City Council, Department of Human Services and Doncare



Around the schools

Planting for the future

The Lions Club of Warrandyte is assisting the community of Warranwood replace hundreds of indigenous trees lost in the recent drought. Pictured right, Brian Wales, Warrandyte Lions president, helps Ben and Claire, Warranwood Primary School captains, plant the first of these trees in their school-ground.



Looking to the past

Melissa King (pictured left), now well-known as a presenter on the ABC-TV program, Gardening Australia, returned to her old school, Warrandyte Primary, for "Back to School Day".

"The day is a statewide event which commenced last year," assistant principal Tim Douglas told the *Diary*. "Schools invite past students to come back to the school and be involved in a special program."

"The focus is on their memories of school and what they have gone on to do in their lives. It is meant to be an inspiration for current students and also a celebration of public schools."

Melissa encouraged students to "follow their dreams and to believe in themselves". She joined the bush band in an item and then planted some indigenous trees in the school garden.

Superkids are right now

Last month, Warrandyte Primary School charmed audiences with the locally-written musical "Superkids" as the featured production in their annual school concert. Pictured right are Annika, Dannika, Eleanor and Cammy, vocal "backing" group for the musical drama that told a timely and amusing tale of bullying and fair play in the schoolground.



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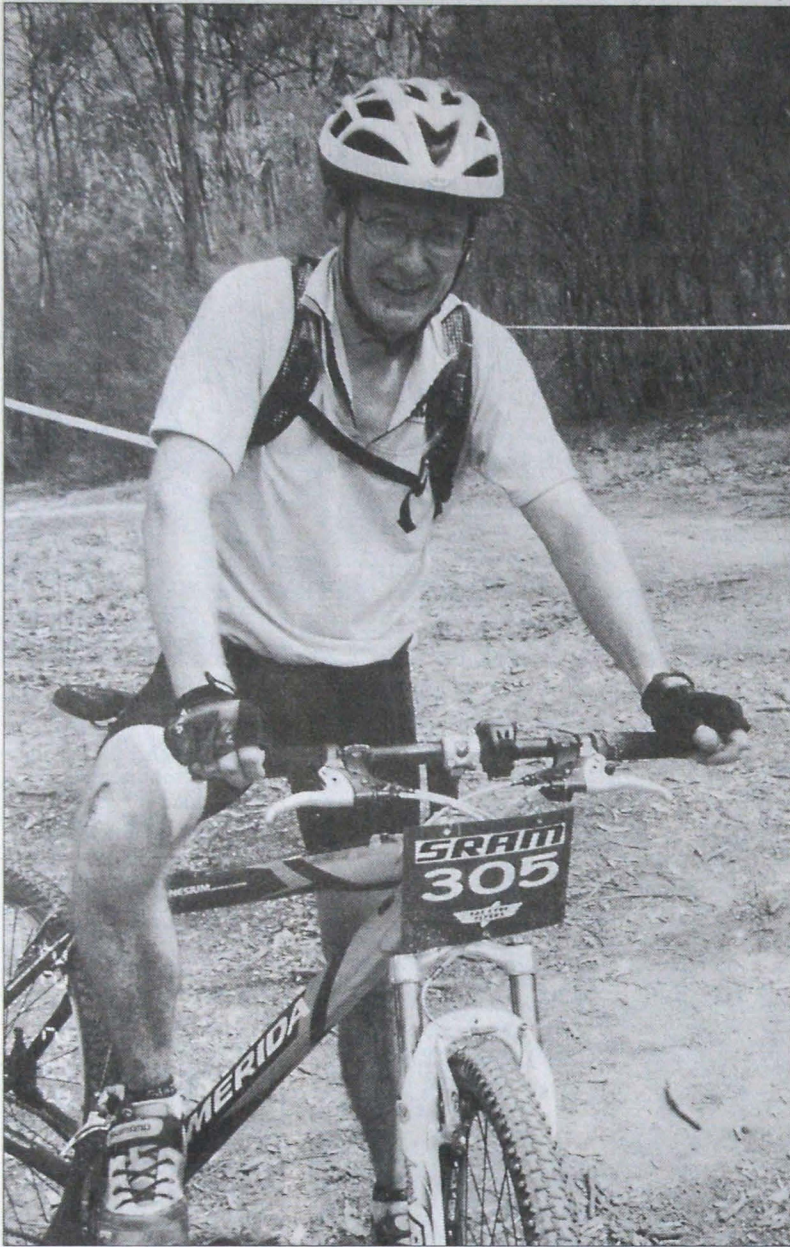
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Many would ask why would you even attempt this, yet from September 30 to October 4, 2003, Warrandyte resident Craig Peacock will accept this unique challenge. Craig is one of a band of 30 athletes who will compete in the 2003 challenge. Having lined up for the event in 2002, Craig's goal is to make it even further than he did last year and complete 100 percent of the race.

"Last year I only trained for four months prior to the race and I managed to ride 85 percent of the way" Craig told the *Diary*. "The corrugations were the toughest part, I lost a number of layers of skin off my backside due to the rough terrain the race covers and the last few days the pain was so much that it would almost make you cry as you pushed through the last few kilometres".

The real challenge of the event is to simply finish each stage without being caught by the "sweep", which eliminates riders who fail to maintain the minimum speed requirement of 12km across the sand. "Only three riders managed to complete 100 percent of the race in 2002. This is an example of just how hard the event is and to complete 100 percent of the race will be the ultimate reward," Mr Peacock said.

The Simpson Desert Cycle Challenge starts in the remote area of Purnie Bore in the Simpson Desert and follows the "Rig Road" as the event makes its way to the famous Birdsville Hotel in outback Queensland. Due to 50 years of erosion, the "road" barely resembles a corrugated track. The course is punctuated by massive sand dunes that are impossible to ride over and require riders to carry their bikes for much of the time.

The challenge is the ultimate test for riders. It is also a unique fundraising event for the Paraplegic Benefit Fund of Australia who provide invaluable support to victims of spinal cord injury in Australia.

To assist Craig in raising funds, call the Simpson Desert Challenge office on 02 8920 1155. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Desert rider: Craig Peacock's trek across the Simpson Desert will aid the paraplegic fund.

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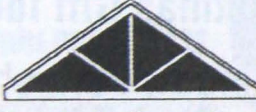
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Key Decisions

Nillumbik Shire Council

These are some of the decisions made by Council on **Wednesday, 17 September 2003**. If you would like any extra information visit our website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au for full business papers. The next Council meeting is on 22 October 2003 at 7.30pm at the Shire Offices. All welcome or listen to the broadcast on Plenty Valley FM 88.6.



Community, Health, Culture, Sport & Leisure

Allocated \$22,743 funding under Community Grants Program 2003-2004.

Agreed to support a proposal from the Greensborough Hockey Club at the Plenty Park. Regional Hockey Centre and to place a contribution of \$221,000 for Stage 1 on the 2004-2005 budget.



Governance

Resolved to give public notice of the proposal to name the land between the Eltham Library, the Railway line and the Eltham Senior Citizen's Centre 'Library Place'.

Resolved to advertise Council's intention to sell 937 Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge by public auction.

Endorsed the draft Economic Development Strategy for public consultation.



Transport and Infrastructure

Resolved to not proceed with a road construction Special Charge Scheme in Valias Street, North Warrandyte.



Land Use, Planning and Environment

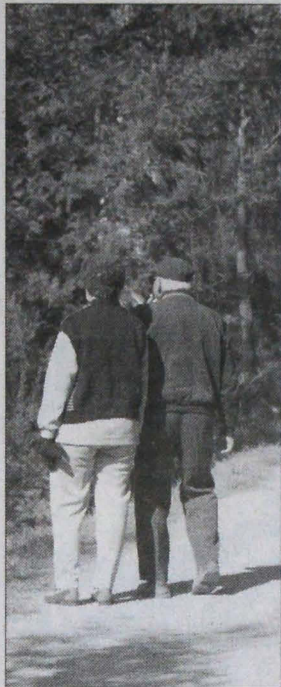
Advised The Henry Arthur Estate in Diamond Creek, a 22 lot residential subdivision undertaken by Council was recently awarded an Environmental Excellence Award by the Civil Contractors Federation at its State Awards held in August.

Resolved to issue a notice of decision to grant a permit for development of the land for nine dwellings at 22 Livingstone Road, Eltham.

Resolved to support the proposal for a limited use Function Centre at 145 Manuka Road Panton Hill, but defer the application to allow for consideration of the implication of constructing passing bays along Manuka Road and the removal of vegetation requiring further approval.



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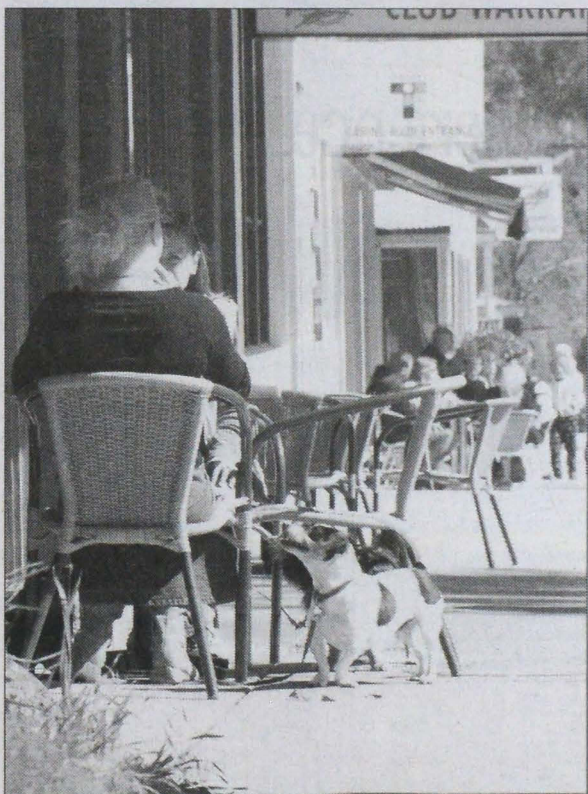
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Springtime in Warrandyte



Pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE



Draft Economic Development Strategy

Nillumbik Shire Council has prepared a Draft Economic Development Strategy and is inviting public comment until 24 October, 2003. The draft strategy presents a vision and goals for sustainable local economic development, a series of guiding principles, and a range of objectives and strategies. A copy is available on Council's website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au or by telephoning Mr Andrew Port on 9433 3129.

Catherine Dale
Chief Executive Officer

FinalReview 060306

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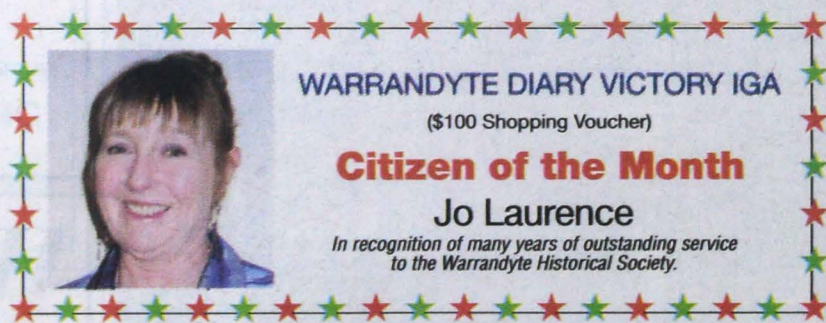
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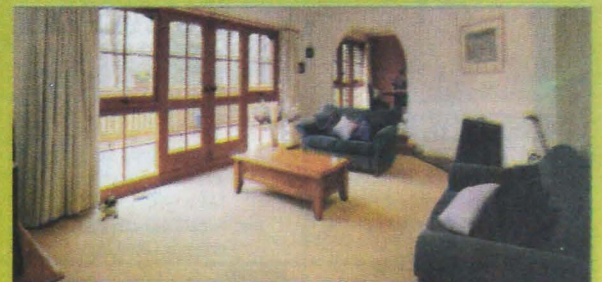
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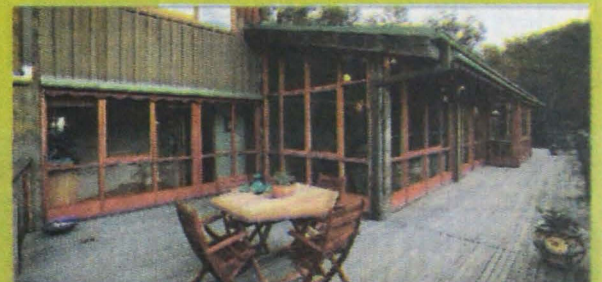
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**MULLUM MULLUM CREEK LINEAR PARK
STAGE 2 MANAGEMENT PLAN
(1996) REVIEW**

The City of Manningham is conducting a review of the Mullum Mullum Creek Linear Park Stage 2 Management Plan (1996). The study area includes Council land from Reynolds Road to Tindals Road, Donvale including Bucks Reserve and Mullum Mullum Reserve. The management plan will detail the future landscaping, use, development and management for the Stage 2 section of the Linear Park.

Written submissions regarding ideas and/or issues for this section of the Mullum Mullum Creek Linear Park are invited by 31 October 2003 to: Teresa Dominik, Manager, Economic and Environmental Planning, Manningham City Council, Box 1 Doncaster, 3108.

All enquiries: Nancy Stokes, Open Space Planner on 9840 9138 or email nancy.stokes@manningham.vic.gov.au

COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

Does the Council reserve near you need some additional planting? Residents are invited to apply for funding from Council to plant trees, shrubs and grasses in their local reserve.

Please contact Nancy Stokes, Council's Open Space Planner on 9840 9138 or email nancy.stokes@manningham.vic.gov.au for information on the grants program and an application form.

Applications for funding close on 31 October 2003.

Manningham City Council Customer Service desk is open between 8am and 5pm at the Municipal Offices at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster 3108.

Enquiries during office hours and after hours should be directed to 9840 9333.

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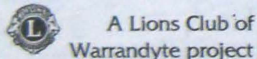
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Tourist guides: you get what you pay for...

LIFE is full of tour guides. Some are paid for it but most of the rest of us perform this function gratis.

We have just been to the Northern Territory and here visited Kakadu and Litchfield parks, and on this tour we had one official tour guide but many others along the way.

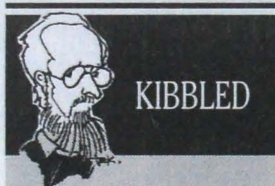
Our accommodation was a five-minute taxi ride from the centre of Darwin so we had the opportunity to experience several tour guides before the official tour set off.

Our first was typical of many "leaders". He greeted us as a long lost relative and realising we were gringos in the city took us by the scenic route, a decision he made for us. Along the way, he gave us the benefit of his years of experience and expertise.

"See that bloody monstrosity. Totally out of keeping with the place! Should only be a few storeys high but look at it—it's like Lego designed by a halfwit, isn't it?"

In keeping with tradition, the tourist is expected to listen and learn from the expert, not to answer questions that may sour relationships. Realising his mistake in not playing by the rules, I responded with a comment that provided him with a way out. "Yes, it is taller than some of the other buildings."

He dropped us off at the Tourist information centre and he hoped we'd have a great stay. Having assessed his navigation and architectural aesthetics



KIBBLED

"He greeted us as a long lost relative and realising we were gringos in the city took us by the scenic route..."

quotient, I gave him his tour guide assessment by proffering no tip.

On the way home we encountered a different type of tour guide, the no-speak-until-spoken-to leader. Darwin has a fascinating history yet all we got was "These traffic lights have been out for the past two days". There's not a lot you can add to that, especially as the car accelerated from zero to 60 in a mere second. The rest of the trip passed in silence. As we left his tour, he reminded me of a

Buddhist philosopher, the sort that makes you think that life is a mysterious and mystical web. And in the same thought I tipped him the equivalent of the sound of one hand clapping in a deserted forest.

Our third tour leader was the one from hell. It began innocently enough but then the panic began. "Oh no! We're going to be trapped with him for the next half an hour?"

It began with an innocent question about Cyclone Tracey. Come in Spinner! "It was a bloody disaster. No sooner had the cyclone hit than all the Greeks collected money from all their relatives in the rest of Australia and they bought up all the blocks from the poor Aussies who'd lost everything." Don't misjudge him I thought, just as the two-way radio crackled "You're out Cullen Bay way aren't you?"

"Yeah."

"Need you to pick up two passengers from the ferry terminal."

"Sorry, no can do. I've got whites in the van."

"You're there, pick them up!" As the other passengers left, after being mistakenly short-changed, I began to wonder about the value of travel as a broadening experience.

After our few days in Darwin we set off on our camping tour. By the time our "official" guide came to collect us, I was beginning to fear the worst. Our tours in other countries had all been positive but I was beginning to anticipate a less than pleasant

experience.

When you think about it, tour-guiding groups of absolute strangers for an intimate four-day experience is not easy. All your interest in nature, ethnology and gourmetless cooking does not prepare you for dealing with the weird and terrifying range that is human nature. Add to that your own personality and your own tolerance level for dick-heads and you begin to see the job description being with "Take one saint..." Burn-out is high which accounts for the large number of young guides. And so it was that Sean arrived, as planned. We were the last to be collected and, as he introduced us to the others, he then amazed me by remembering all of the names of the other 13 tourists. "This guy is good!" I murmured to Herself. I continued to admire his ability to "play" his audience as he told us about the program and made an effort to bond the group by getting us all to tell something about ourselves. But then the rot set in and the next type of tour guide emerged; the now-you-know-me-you'll-realise-that-I'm-a-professional sport-star-trapped-inside-a-tour guide's-clothing. Camp dinners became career therapy sessions.

At this stage in my life I've decided not to become a tour guide, that is until these bloody greenies stop raving on about the environment and learn to love bush-bashing.

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Fly me to the moon, for a wonderful love affair

I HAD read about Broome's "Staircase to the Moon" phenomena long before we visited the popular West Australian tourist town.

It was June 2000. The day we arrived (although we didn't know it) was, by luck and coincidence, the night of the full moon. Having set up camp at Broome's Bird Observatory, 18 kilometres out of town, we wandered a few metres down a sandy track to the shores of Roebuck Bay to view the fiery sunset.

Not long after settling back at camp and enjoying a cold beer, we noticed other campers making their way down the sandy track to the beach. A bit late for the sunset, we thought. It was only when a couple stopped beside us and asked, "Aren't you going to see the Staircase to the Moon?" that we realised what the pilgrimage was all about.

Abandoning our unfinished beers we headed back down to the bay. Just in the nick of time. It was low tide and the exposed mudflats glistened in the pearly glow of the rising moon. We stood in silence, hardly daring to blink in case we missed the moment. And the moment came not long after, when the perfect milky-white sphere of the moon, having surfaced above the horizon, met its own reflection, forming an unbroken column of light over the bay—the staircase.

The effect was dramatic, surreal and undeniably beautiful. A natural light show created by the physics of science. Naively I had thought the spectacle unique to Broome, but I have seen it one other time—last year, when the full moon rose



over a glassy-calm lake in a place that has become entrenched in my heart.

The moon has long been a source of mysticism, romanticism and scientific curiosity. Does it influence our behaviour? Well, hospital casualty departments certainly say they are busier on the night of the full moon and I have noticed—and others too—that dreams are more vivid around that time.

While all that might be purely speculation, there is no doubt that the life cycles of many plants and animals are governed by the moon. None more remarkable than the corals of the Great Barrier Reef. Each November, on one night a few

days after the full moon, every single species of coral along the entire 2300 kilometres of the reef spawn simultaneously.

What about our own species? The 12 month calendar by which we live is relatively modern. It was devised by the Romans and is based on the 29 and a half-day lunar month—the interval between new moons. Is it mere coincidence that the female menstrual cycle is a monthly event?

While it is the sun that controls the seasons and weather, the moon is responsible for the tides. The gravitational pull of the moon causes a bulge in the oceans of the earth on the side closest to the moon, which is balanced by another on the

NATURE

By PAT COUPAR
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

opposite side. As the earth rotates both bulges move around the earth.

The moon revolves once on its axis each time it orbits the earth. But the pull of our home planet's gravity keeps the moon's slightly heavier side seemingly locked towards us no matter what phase it is in. It wasn't until 1959, when the first spacecraft circumnavigated the moon, that we were able to see the deeply cratered far side for the first time.

I am a compulsive moon watcher. While a telescope remains on my wish list, I make do with binoculars, gazing up at the craters and mountains until my arms and neck ache. I have seen the moon in all its phases: seen it silvery-white in a cold black sky; seen it glow red from fires raging in the forests; seen it encircled by a hazy rain-heralding halo and once, eclipsed by the shadow of the earth.

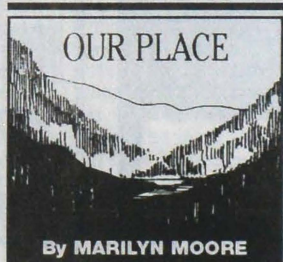
Because the moon has no atmosphere it has no weather—no wind or water to constantly sculpture the landscape. Its cratered surface, like a frozen record in time, reveals every impact over its three billion-year history.

The moon is visible only via the light reflected from the sun. But it shines so brightly that it can be seen even in the blue sky of day. Resplendent, white, cold, lifeless, mysteriously fascinating, waxing and waning—this ball of rock, earth's constant cosmic companion, is compelling viewing.

Great fun—when you stop!

MOST cyclists will tell you that riding is just an excuse for eating. The further you ride, the more you eat. Fresh air and food unlimited. What a life!

The promise of food keeps a cyclist going through all kinds of adversity, such as violent storms. Lagging behind the group recently, I was riding alone up Beach Road on a day when hundreds of other cyclists had bailed out and gone home. But for we Warrandytians, the easiest way home was to keep pedalling. Torrential gales lashed the coast, whipping up seaspray and a flying barrage of sand that blinded and stung. Crosswinds of 100kph made riding on the road highly dangerous, so I bailed out onto the bike path. Bits of palm tree and beach flotsam sailed through the air, and more than one wave broke right over my head. Exhaustion was setting in, not so much from the physical exertion but rather from the enormous amount of mental energy used up in concentrating on staying upright. Only the prospect of hot food and shelter at Port Melbourne drove me on.



By MARILYN MOORE

The rest of the group, when I caught them, had beaten me to shelter and the soup counter by only about 10 minutes. Reminiscences of epic proportions were already filling the air. The two-hour ride from Mornington had taken over four hours.

What a difference hot food and a tailwind made! Still soggy, but infinitely less disposed to hypothermia, we headed off with renewed vigour on the final leg of our journey, which included a particularly salubrious cake stop in Ivanhoe and a sensational ride home along Koonung Creek in the golden rainwashed light of late afternoon.

So a fortnight later, when a group of friends organised a

two-day ride around the Bay, going with them seemed like a Really Good Idea: perfect cycling weather, a light northerly breeze, convivial company, mostly quiet back roads to travel on and café stops galore. Too good to be true!

Which of course it was. Fifty kilometres down the track, quiet back roads turned into pot-hole infested strips of bitumen with rough (very rough) edges. Every car that passed caused a perilous encounter with the high-profile edges. Worse, if the passing vehicle moved over to let the cyclists stay on the bitumen, we were showered with clouds of gravel. When the passing vehicle was a double-bungered gravel truck, we were in dire straits, copping both the dustbath and the dangerous dive off the road. And on that Saturday morning every double-bungered gravel truck in the Universe chugged up that little back road for some sort of get-together!

Wiping filthy faces and searching fruitlessly for something clean to wipe specs on, we pedalled eagerly in the general direction of coffee. A keen headwind strung the riders out over several kilometres. But no half-

hearted breeze was going to stand between me and a food stop. Hadn't I survived the Great Beach Road Gale only two weeks before?

The café turned out to be straight out of Fawcett Towers—now that's something you wouldn't find in Warrandyte—what a fizzer! The owner meticulously wrote down 12 separate orders; 40 minutes later he managed to deliver 11 orders that scarcely overlapped with the original 12! (He forgot my long black completely). And that was just the coffee. It would take me all day to tell you about how frizzing cold we got while he stuffed around, the weird assortment of food we ended up with and the excruciating payment process. Don't these café owners realise how vital the quick service of hot food is to we seriously needy eaters?

Our next goal is the annual epic Around the Bay in one day. I've always thought the hardest part of this ride to be not so much the distance (215km) as the lack of time to eat en route. Ah well, perhaps the hysterically incompetent proprietor of Fizzer Café won't be the only crazy person along that road!

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Do you need help?



Ironbarks

Long skinny black trunks
like burnt poles.
No branches except for
short tufty high up bits.
The wind makes them
thrust and puff
like boxing kangaroos.

Gangly silent lurking
like lanky kids
hanging back
at the edge of the dance.
Or dark shapes hovering
in the shadows
of the campfire.

Eerie, this straight blackness,
like the stricken aftermath
of a thousand bushfires.
The scored and seared trunks
shriek some ancient blackened pain—
testimony
To a tormented past

We've planted more—
Insurance.
Still so small
you could tread on them,
save for their markers
of up-turned pots.
Looking like
a forest of pikes
with black helmets—

A tiny advance party
of the Majestic Ironbark Army
marking its minute movement
towards Dunsinane.

KAREN THROSSELL

FIRE

SURVIVAL EXPO



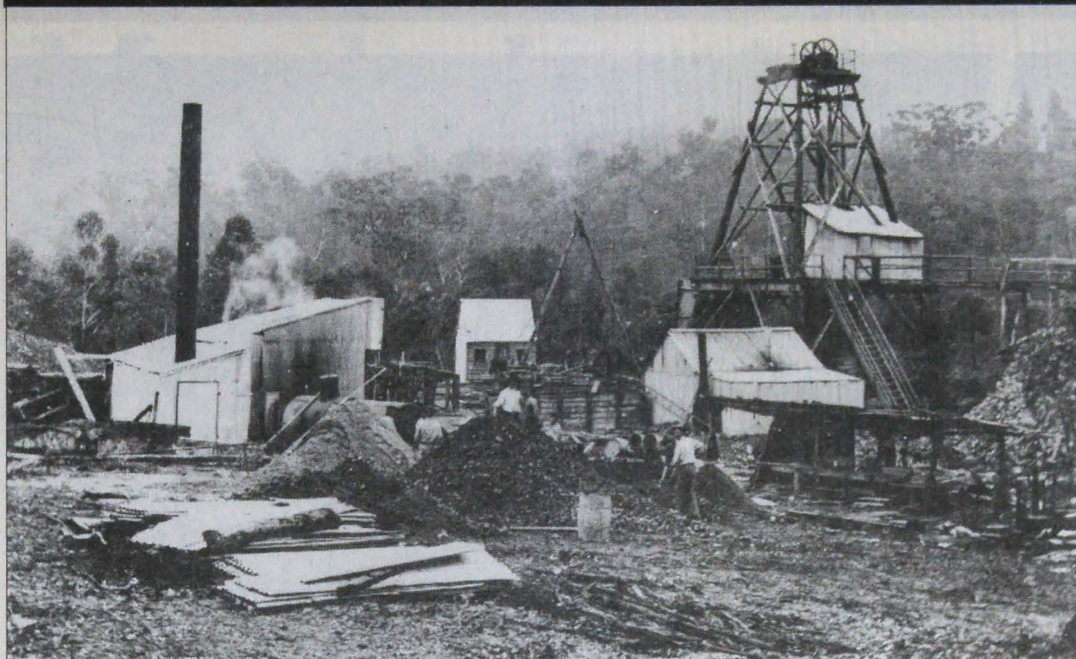
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- Sprinkler systems for bushfire protection
- Children's activities including Wonga Park CFA Puppet Show
- Scanners, UHF hand-held radios AM/FM battery operated radios.
- Sausage Sizzle
- Fire extinguishers, fire blankets and smoke alarms
- Personal safety clothing and equipment
- CFA Information Sessions — advice for your bushfire survival plan
- Local Council, Victoria Police, Dept Sustainability and Environment
- Wildlife Advice
- Low Fire Risk Plants
- and much more

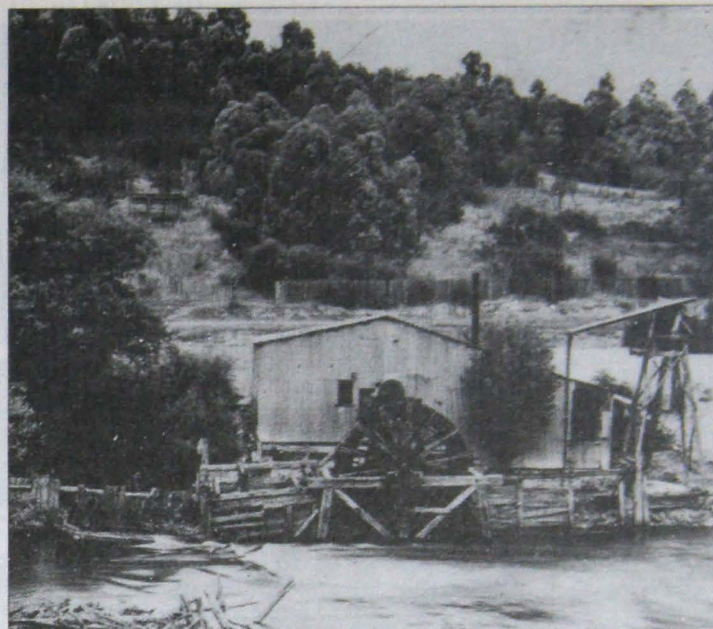
The Fire Safety and Survival Expo will provide residents of high fire risk areas access to equipment and services which may be utilised in improving their own safety.

SATURDAY 25th OCTOBER 2003
10am til 4pm

Warrandyte Fire Station
Cnr Harris Gully Road & Yarra Street
Warrandyte, Melway 35 C2



Caledonia gold mine near Black Flat.



Water-driven State Battery on the Yarra at Warrandyte.

A revival of mining

THE first decade of the 20th century brought about a revival in Warrandyte mining, and over a dozen quartz mines were worked at depth.

The most fruitful of these were the Caledonia, Victory and Pigtail.

The discovery of the Caledonia Gold Mines (No Liability) Company in Selby's freehold (earlier known as Thomson's pre-emptive right), near today's Black Flat, was described as the one really bright spot in the history of the Warrandyte goldfield.

John Sloan and Henry Squires originally prospected it in 1896. From 1898 these prospectors called their mine the Newhaven Syndicate, but it was not until 1905, after it had been assessed by the mining engineer A.W. Merrin, at the behest of mining entrepreneurs Edward Miller MLA, and George Dickenson, that its potential was apparent.

During 1904 to 1908 the Caledonia mine employed as many as 250 men, and records for that period reveal a yield of over 12,600 ounces, it being the first and only time a Warrandyte mine realised significant dividends for its shareholders. Towards the end of 1908 the returns fell away as the company, and its mining manager, John Till, could no longer justify continuing activities because the previously high yields had petered out.

In February 1909 the company was stimulated by a grant of £750, but was still unable to continue working economically, and much of the machinery and equipment was sold in April of that year. Its main shaft was sunk to a depth of over 600 feet and the mine was worked on six different levels. It had periodic leases of life in ensuing years, when it was often worked by tributers. By 1909 this company had also sold its water-wheel crusher (a 5-head stamp battery originally built by William Lewis in 1897) situated on the Yarra bank to the Victorian government for use by local parties. Affectionately known as Warrandyte's State Battery it would continue as an entity until 1925.

In 1910 the lease for the Caledonia mine was transferred to Pollard and Baker's New Caledonia Gold Mining Company; and from 1911 till 1915 it operated as the Caledonia Consolidated Gold Mining Company, with crushings effected at the State Bat-

tery, but was suspended during the latter years of the Great War. After the latter company revived its operations as the Caledonia Consolidated Gold Mining Company (No Liability) during 1921 and 1922, the work was performed by tributers, mainly by Fred Johansen and Party. When Johansen died in 1923, the mine's demise was nigh, despite the numerous attempts by Messrs Lewis, von Beckerath, Gibbs and others during the Depression years to effect its resurrection.

For a brief period the Victory also proved to be a successful mining venture. This rabbit warren-like complex extended across Whipstick Gully and contained tunnels and mines which penetrated both of the adjacent Third and Fourth hills. During its peak period of success, between 1896 and 1899, it yielded more than 1570 ounces of gold. After this time, when the claim was purchased by a Melbourne syndicate, and when it later became known as New Victory Gold Mining Company (No Liability), it continued to run on the calls from the ordinary shareholders, who were never to receive a dividend. The main shaft was sunk to a depth of 70 metres. Its plant and machinery were sold in November 1908.

Another mine, which spasmodically produced high yields of gold, was originally titled Pig Tail Quartz Mining Company (No Liability). Its potential was soon realised when its quartz outcrop was uncovered by Stiggants and Holloway in the 1870s. In its first three years of working with a 200 feet shaft and drive it yielded its discoverers over 2000 ounces. However, when operated by a series of subsequent owners it was never to attain the success of its original discoverers, although it was mined profitably as the Caledonia Consols in 1906. It ceased to be mined in 1908.

More Recent Times

After 1910 activities in and around the Warrandyte goldfield became significantly reduced, particularly

GOLD IN THE GULLIES: 6

By MURRAY HOUGHTON



with various Mines Department and Doncaster council directives to fill in and make safe the many gaping holes which earlier mining had produced. Nevertheless, a minor "rush" to the district followed the alluvial finds of Charles Jones and Ferdy Hornidge in their township properties in 1926.

In the Depression years that followed, numerous unemployed men could be observed re-working old

mines, constructing cofferdams or panning the creek beds. A few successful ones "made wages".

The sites of many of Warrandyte mines and tunnels are hidden away on private property. However, at the foot of the "Bruce Bence Track" in Whipstick Gully, on the Fourth Hill, and in the Forest Reserve to the south of the township, some can still be visited. The tourist of today can also be reminded of Warrandyte's "golden days" by the foundations of the Caledonia Mine on Till's Drive, the cairns erected at Andersons Creek (the Michel memorial) and on the south bank of the Yarra (at the site of the State Battery in the township), and by the water gushing

through the Evelyn Tunnel at Pound Bend.

Perhaps "Warrandyte's Precious Commodity" can be best summed up by quoting the following prediction from Sydney Bulletin of May 10, 1906: "On its old records, Warrandyte was never very much, and the attempts to lead the public into imagining that the main reefs or the Caledonia reef are likely to be bonanzas is not justified by present work or past history. It was a good 'Party Field', and local people will be astonished if it ever is anything else."

● CONCLUDED

(Reprinted by permission of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society.)



Two old diggers working an alluvial claim at Pound Bend, 1926.

Warrandyte's gold saga is available in booklet form

WARRANDYTE'S PRECIOUS COMMODITY

GOLDEN DAYS AMONGST THE GOLDEN WATTLE

BY MURRAY HOUGHTON

For sale at the Warrandyte Historical Society Museum
Yarra Street, Warrandyte — \$5.50



Churches working together

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

THERE'S a lot more closeness between the four churches in Warrandyte and Park Orchards ever since an inter-church council began about 30 years ago, according to council secretary John Hanson.

Formed in the 1970s by the Uniting, Community, Anglican and Catholic churches to find out what they could do together, it was established that each church accepted each other as fellow Christians. John says that although the churches had their own ways of doing things, they generally agreed on most issues.

"It's no longer a 'we are right, they are wrong' attitude, said John, "and it's a way for people to get to know other people and work together."

Representing a total congregation of over 500 people, each church is entitled to have a member of the clergy and two lay people on the council, which meets three times a year, although the ministers and

VILLAGE LIFE

priests also get together for informal chats at other times.

"The main thing we do together is the carols at Stiggants Reserve which is on Saturday, December 13 this year. It's a big night when we might get 1000 people. Then there's the Stations of the Cross at Easter and prayers for Christian unity about seven weeks later," John said.

The carols are mainly traditional and the evening includes performances by local school groups. John said this brings parents along to swell the numbers and it gives the schools exposure for themselves. Money raised by selling programs and candles is used for the sound, lighting and advertising, and a collection is taken for the Christmas Bowl appeal.

"Usually one church takes most of the responsibility for one of these inter-church events then delegates what they need doing. We'd rather do a few things well than over-

stretch ourselves."

John says volunteers from the churches teach religious education at Andersons Creek and Warrandyte Primary, fully staffing all grades.

"One volunteer who lives in Oakleigh takes a couple of classes on his way to work in Warrandyte. It shows that we don't just sit at church then go home until the service next week."

Another project involving the council is LinC, or Love in the name of Christ, where people volunteer to help other people in the community. John said that every few weeks he visits a legally blind man who lives in a hostel to help him pay his bills. The man's son and daughter live interstate.

"Someone else takes a chap to his psychologist in Greensborough and others child-mind to give parents some relief. We help with small tasks not covered by Doncare and it's in Nillumbik too." The Community church is raising money to buy a house for refugees.

"All the churches are very welcoming, with most of them offering a cup of tea after the

service so they can get to know one another. It's the advantage of the smaller congregation where you know when it's someone new and get to know each other more intimately. It's very different from larger churches.

"The Community church has grown to hold two Sunday morning services—I remember when they could fit into the old gospel hall opposite Whipstick Gully—and there are café churches at night aimed at young people.

"We go to the others' churches—some are more lively and others sedate, but we feel quite comfortable. It's important to see what we can do on the council by keeping in contact with each other, and know what each other's doing. Some of the representatives have been on council for a long time, others are new who bring fresh ideas.

"I'm from the Uniting Church, but I attended a requiem mass recently and a lot of the service was similar in parts to what we have. It could have been any church in many ways—it wasn't too foreign."



Pictures of the 2002 interchurch carols service at Stiggants Reserve by Stephen Reynolds.

George was well remembered

HANNIE RAYSON'S play *Life After George*, first performed in 2000, broke box office records during its Melbourne premiere season. Its recent airing at the Mechanics Institute by the Warrandyte Theatre Company also drew in the crowds, and the production was enthusiastically received by a packed house on at least the one night I can vouch for.

The story revolves around the charismatic Professor Peter George, whose life and ideals are revealed little by little through the recollections of the five people who knew and loved him best—his three wives (Beatrix, Lindsay and Poppy), his old friend Duffy, and his daughter Ana.

The plane crash that killed George makes a dramatic opening to a story that otherwise has no beginning and no end. Instead, the play is like six skeins of wool tangled together, only instead of wool the strands are staves of music written for different instruments.

Throughout the play we get to hear a few bars of this, a line or two or that, lots of little duets, a few trios, random glimpses, one counterpoint cleverly evolving into another—until at George's funeral all the different staves

are finally, if only briefly, synchronised.

George (played with great energy by Ken Virtue) is a "classic left-wing academic" (is there such a thing?), whose philosophies (academic and personal) were born during the student revolts of the 1960s. The wife who supported him during these years was Beatrix (beautifully played by Elizabeth Long), an English middle-class bohemian painter and mother of George's two children.

George's second wife, Lindsay (perfectly portrayed by Carol Keating), once an ambitious student activist, was now the somewhat formidable Dean of Arts, no longer as concerned with free thinking as she was with balancing the books.

His third wife, the enigmatic Poppy (Trish Evans) is young and pretty, and smitten with George and his "radical" ideals in a way that separates her from both her own generation and those of Beatrix and Lindsay. Trish Evans was outstanding in this role. It would have been easy to merely play the bimbo, but Evans gave Poppy an intelligent and meaningful persona.

And George himself? Well, George was George. Whilst he passionately embraced the importance of individual thought, much of his dogma, once dar-

THEATRE

By MARILYN MOORE

ing and radical, now sounded clichéd and dated. An excuse, in fact, for being a bit of a sleaze who'd passionately embrace almost anything in a skirt that walked through his door. He certainly enjoyed life, and showed no guilt for his often selfish behaviour.

Feeling neglected and unappreciated throughout all this is Ana (played with just the right touch of unsophistication by Melanie Parkes), daughter of George and Beatrix. George's three wives are all overtly intelligent, in fact brilliant, women—clear-sighted, purposeful, high-achievers.

In contrast, Ana is seen as unsuccessful, a bit of a drifter, still bearing the hallmarks of a troubled teenager whose relationship with her parents, especially her father, has been painful and uneasy.

The real substance of this play lies in the evolving relationships between the four women: Beatrix has resumed her career as an artist in a rustic setting in Tuscany; Lindsay, the ambitious

perfectionist, has devoted herself to her work; Poppy, the impassioned idealist, is still finding her place in the world, and is devastated by George's death. Ana drifts in and out—nobody is ever on her wavelength, but then, nobody is too sure what her wavelength is.

George's friend Duffy provides a unifying focus. Everybody loves Duffy (warmly played by noted actor William Connolly) and depends on him in a way that they could never have depended on George. Duffy had taught George to fly.

"I taught him," says Duffy. "But George, mate, George... you taught me to live."

A resolution to Rayson's web of relationships comes at George's funeral. No one loved George better than his three wives, but none could see him so clearly as his daughter Ana. Never infatuated by his philosophy, Ana had felt rejected all her life and had perhaps struggled the longest and hardest to understand and love George and his flaws. In the end it is Ana's passion and insight that George would have been most proud of—she is the only true free-thinking radical amongst them.

Director Sue Dyring, assisted by Alan

Cornell and an experienced and well-selected cast, gave us a superb rendition of Rayson's play. The performance was technically one of the most polished ever achieved by the WTC. Rapid and frequent scene-shifts and time-changes flowed smoothly throughout: Lindsay, for example, could be acridly discussing funeral arrangements with Beatrix, then mid-sentence find herself arguing politics with George 20 years earlier.

This technique was used to dynamic effect. It was great fun to watch, and a challenge for actors and producer (Kathryn Bays) alike. As with other recent WTC productions, thoughtful and effective use was made of the space within the hall, and the lighting and sound operators managed the consequent difficulties with great professionalism.

Perhaps some of the characters were a little stereotyped, but with Rayson's complex method of unravelling the storyline, this actually helped the audience to catch on to the time-shifts and scene changes more quickly. Any stereotyping was well balanced by a classy script, full of wit, incisive observation and dynamic relationship changes. It was a WTC production definitely not to be missed.

Men behaving well



Conducted by **JUDY GREEN**

Drop your news in the letterbox in the front door of our office at the Community Centre, fax it to 9844 4168, or post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte, 3113, by the last Friday in the month.

Following the very successful annual Women's Health Week, Manningham council has approached community organisations to help organise a Men's Health Week. Warrandyte Neighbourhood House will be doing this by inviting men to "tasters" of a selection of its health-oriented courses with the hope of encouraging them to come on a regular basis. Two of the tutors from their yoga and "strong people stay young" courses are offering men-only classes for a gold coin donation. They are also inviting men to join the women on their Monday walk around the river and the Tai Chi class is opening up for men to try it out. "Strong men stay young" with Karen Moxey will be on Monday, October 20 from 6pm to 7pm. Tai Chi with David Shepherd is on Tuesday, October 21 from 7.30pm-9pm. The group walk is on Monday, October 20, 9.30am to 10.30am, starting at the Warrandyte Community Centre, and yoga with Pam Egglestone is on Wednesday, October 22 from 7pm to 8pm.

Recovery

Rotary Club of Warrandyte is supporting a free information evening for people with mental illness, practitioners, family, carers and community members on Thursday, October 16 at 6pm at Manningham Function Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. RSVP 9840 9315 by October 10. The club is also supporting Men's Health Week, from Friday, October 17 to Friday, October 24. Call Manningham council on 9840 9426 for further information.

Community

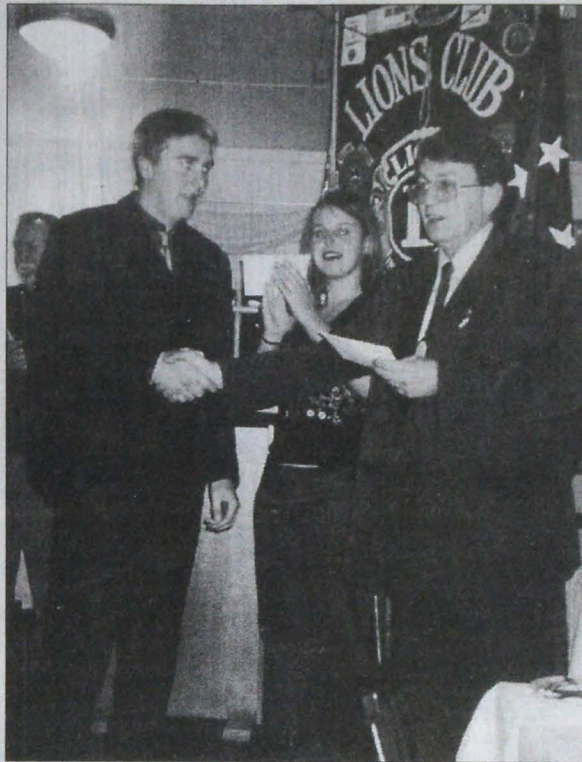
The 2003 annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters Group will be held at the centre, 168 Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Tuesday, October 28 commencing at 7.30pm. The group is looking for a further show of support as the first three years of its tenure draws to a close. Over 100 people attended the protest meeting held then to ensure the management of the centre stayed with the community. The group is now looking for an influx of new skills and enthusiasm to carry the management of the centre on for the next three years. If you are interested in joining the supporters group and can't attend the meeting, please call the centre on 9844 4053.

Seminar

The next Environment Seminar, to be held at the Function Room, Club Warrandyte, 120 Yarra Street, Warrandyte will be on Thursday, November 6 commencing at 7.30pm. The topic "Orchid Conservation in Victoria" will be lead by Dick Thompson of the Australasian Native Orchid Society. He will talk about his work on recovery programs for rare and threatened orchid species, and some issues in orchid conservation around the state.

Dance

The next dance organised by the South Warrandyte Social Dance Committee will be in the South Warrandyte hall in Hall Road on Saturday, October 11. Cost is \$7 per head with tea and coffee provided. For information call 9729 8192.



Lions president Brian Wales congratulates Ben Taylor, Lions Youth of the Year.

Youth honoured

Ben Taylor is the 2003 Warrandyte Lions Youth of the Year. Ben was nominated by the Warrandyte Cricket Club and both Ben and the cricket club are \$600 richer as a result of his success. The four finalists, selected after preliminary judging, were Ben Taylor and Emma Clark from Eltham College and Linda Garlepp and Daniel Jackson from Parkwood Secondary College. The four finalists were required to speak for up to five minutes on a topic of their choice at the Lions club's meeting to make up the last 20 percent of their marks. Minor prizes were awarded to the other finalists.

Latin

A "Street Latin Dance Party" will be held at Warrandyte Primary School on Saturday, November 8 from 8pm to 12pm. Instructors will be in attendance to teach the moves. BYO drinks; food will be provided. Tickets are \$10 to cover costs only. All welcome. Enquiries to Jenny McDonnell on 9844 4730.

Convention

The Lions Club of Warrandyte will host the Lions district convention at the Karalyka Centre in Ringwood from November 14 to 16. More than 150 delegates

and their partners are expected to attend to hear keynote speaker and former Warrandyte resident Associate Professor Andrew Vizard.

AGM

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Pre-school will be held on Monday, November 17 at 7.30pm at the pre-school in Taroona Avenue. Business will include election of office-bearers for 2004. Prior to the meeting, a new constitution will be formally accepted. This updated version can be viewed in the foyer of the pre-school, two weeks before the meeting.

Band

The Eltham Concert Band annual concert, conducted by Warrandyte resident, Barry McKimm, will take place at the Eltham Community Centre, Pitt Street, Eltham on Saturday, October 18. Chicken and champagne (\$5) at 7pm followed by the performance (\$15, concession \$12) at 8pm. "Samba di Orpheu" is a concert of Brazilian music based around the story of Orpheus. Bookings are essential for the chicken and champagne. Tickets available at the door for concert only. For all bookings contact Sue Boyle on 9842 6647

Colours

The October exhibition at the Stonehouse Gallery, 323 Warrandyte-Ringwood Road, Warrandyte is entitled "The Colours of my Life". It is an exploration of colour in slips and glazes by Penny Cearn and Joy van der Heyden.

Gallery

Manningham Gallery's latest exhibition "Eros and Logos" is a celebration of the human form and a quest regarding the human condition. The show is open from September 30 to October 11. The exhibition



tion includes oil on canvas and large scale charcoal works on paper. The gallery is located at the council offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster and is open from Tuesday to Friday, 11am to 5pm and Saturday, 2pm to 5pm.

Theatre

"Mouth of the Dog" is the title of a play by Kangaroo Ground writer Ray Mooney to be presented by the Melbourne Writers Theatre at the Carlton Courthouse, 347 Drummond Street, Carlton from October 3 to October 11. For bookings call 9712 0210. Cost is \$20 (concession \$15).

Music Hall

Eltham Little Theatre presents its annual Music Hall, including the rootin' tootin' western melodrama "Love or Lassos" by Leo Regan, from November 6 to December 6 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 8pm. BYO supper and drinks to the Eltham Performing Arts Centre, Main Road, Research. Bookings to 9437 1574. Cost is \$16 (concession \$14)

Indigenous

Manningham Council's "2003 Indigenous cultural and heritage program" runs from September 4 to November 16 and highlights the culture and heritage of Manningham's indigenous people. The program includes a performance by the Bama Ngappi Ngappi Dancers, a film and discussion night with Richard Frankland, a reconciliation family fun day and an in-depth discussion exploring the symbols and ancestral designs found in the "From the Centre" exhibition artworks. For a copy of the program, bookings or enquiries please contact Trudy Tandberg, Manningham council, 9840 9367.

Sale

A "monster" auction car boot sale will be held at the Warranwood Primary School on Sunday, November 9 commencing at 11am. The sale is organised by the Lions Club of Warrandyte and proceeds will be divided between the South Warrandyte CFA and the Lions club. Donations of unwanted goods in good condition are sought and will be sold on commission at a nominated reserve price. Alternatively you can sell your own goods from your car. Further information from Laurie on 0419 594 366 or Paul on 0413 262 033.

Festival

The Rotary Eltham Town Festival will be held on the weekend of November 8 and 9. Saturday will feature entertainment in the Town Centre with evening fireworks at Central Oval. On Sunday there will be a street parade and a broad range of entertainment and activities in Alistair Knox Park. Anyone interested in participating should ring 9431 3666 for an application form.

Knees

The University of Melbourne School of Physiotherapy is seeking participants in a study to evaluate the effectiveness of a 12 week physiotherapy program to treat a common knee condition called "Jumper's Knee". To be eligible you must be between 18 and 35, have knee pain aggravated by jumping, landing, running or squatting and have your exercise or activity limited by your knee pain for at least six months. For more information call Ben on 8344 8127.

Potters

Celebrating 45 years of operation, Potters Gallery's exhibition "Connections" continues until Sunday, October 26. It features artists who have been connected with Potters Cottage over the years including several of the founding potters.

Poetry

Kangaroo Ground poet, teacher and writer, John Jenkins is looking forward to the launch of his new book, Dark River, which celebrates the nature, landscapes and rural life of Nillumbik and the Yarra Valley. It will be launched by Dr John Leonard at the Victorian Writers Centre, First Floor, Nicholas Building, 37 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Friday, October 17 at 6.30pm.

Exhibition

The Witchery Shoppe at 9/250 Yarra Street, Warrandyte is presenting an exhibition of nude paintings by Edward Mifford entitled "Picasso's Joy", open until October 18.

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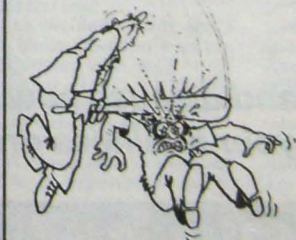
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Second's best if you can't win 'em all

By JUDY GREEN

After 100 per cent success in the previous season's Eastern Region Tennis grand finals, Warrandyte juniors had to settle for runner-up flags at the end of the winter season.

Four teams (Girls 3, Boys 12, Boys 28 and Mixed 18) were eliminated in the semi-finals. Three others — Boys 10, Boys 17 and Boys 18 Blue advanced to the grand finals.

Boys 10 (Chris Henderson (captain), Oliver Mock, Daniel Buckley, Kyle Robinson and Justin Dwyer) lost a close one to Blackburn, five sets 46 games to three sets 41 games.

Boys 17 (Alex McPhee Brown (captain), Ben Robertson, Blake Tester, Justin Hull, Troy Donis and Mathew Cook) went down to Chirnside Park five sets 39 games to three sets 33 games.

Boys 18 Blue (Rhys Simpson (captain), Stephen Pinolo, Jonathan Lambrianidis, Joshua Alexander, Lee Pieper and Martin Higinbotham) lost to Montrose five sets 39 games to three sets 28 games.

One senior team, Mixed 3, reached the semi-finals but went no further.

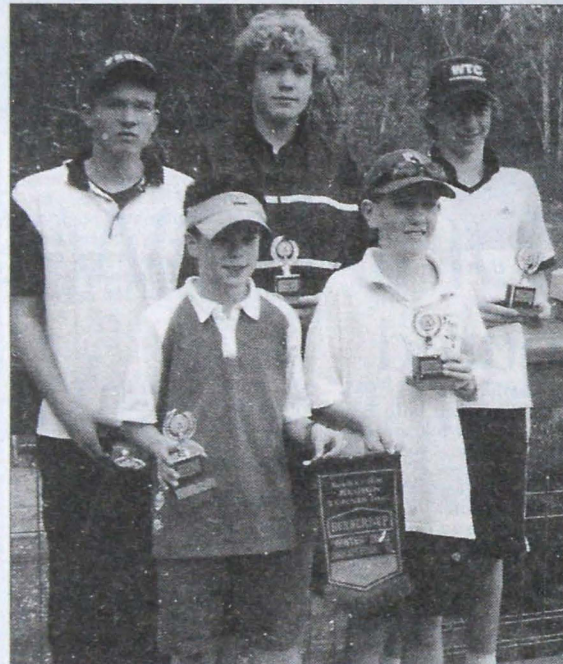
The Eastern Region Tennis summer season for both seniors and juniors starts on October 11.



Left: Boys 18 Blue. Back row (from left): Stephen Pinolo, Rhys Simpson, Martin Higinbotham, Jonathon Lambrianidis. Front: Joshua Alexander, Lee Pieper.

Below left: Boys 10. Back: Kyle Robinson, Chris Henderson, Oliver Mock. Front: Justin Dwyer, Daniel Buckley.

Below: Boys 17. Back: Blake Tester, Mathew Cook, Alex McPhee Brown, Justin Hull. Front: Troy Donis, Ben Robertson.



WARRANDYTE DIARY • PRICELESS

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8 of the very best!



Warrandyte ended another bumper junior basketball season on September 13 with an armload of premierships — six from the EDJBA Saturday competition and two from the elite Friday night championship. *Diary* basketball writer TONY OLIVER, aided and abetted by Redbacks coaches GREG PEARSON, MANDY RATCLIFFE, PAUL WHITTINGHAM, IAN WOOD and DAMIAN ARSENIS, bring you the good news.

Saturday, September 13, was the culmination of great year for the Warrandyte Basketball Association, with two Redback teams taking premierships in the elite Melbourne-wide junior championship competition.

A third was eliminated in a preliminary final.

First on the podium were the Under-12 Metro 1 girls of Lorraine Parfitt.

They came up against arch rivals Bulleen and produced an amazing second-half turnaround to win 41-39 at Dandenong. Bulleen had earned their place in the grand final with a win over Warrandyte in the first semi-final, forcing the Redbacks into the preliminary final against Sunbury on the Friday night.

Although Sunbury scored the first three baskets, excellent teamwork and skills saw Warrandyte win 59-29 to earn another shot at Bulleen the following evening.

The girls had been involved in domestic finals earlier on the Saturday and Zanetta Hosking and Harriet Rappell took minor injuries into the grand final.

The first half belonged to Bulleen, who led by 14 points at the break. Their play revolved around their taller forwards taking the rebounds under the basket and passing to fast-breaking guards.

The second half started slowly, with little indication of the fireworks that were to come. Those fireworks were ignited by Zoe Simmons, Lisa Rennie, Myka Johnston and Courtney Petalas.

With eight minutes to go, the Bulleen offence had been shut down and the Redbacks had turned the 14-point deficit into a six-point lead.

Forwards Rennie and Johnston were getting a good share of the rebounds and being effective in offence, feeding off play set up by Nicolette Prior and Brittany Parsons. Carly Bensch was also providing strength in mid field.

Bulleen were able to break their scoring drought late in the game, but strong dribbling from Harriet Rappell in particular allowed Warrandyte to run down the clock.

It was fitting that the full time buzzer

Trying times

Try-outs for the 2004 Friday night junior championship season will be held this month and are open to all players. Teams are available in most age groups from Under-12 to Under-20, both boys and girls. Contact Nick Peters on 9846 1516 for details.

sounded with Warrandyte's top scorer and the game's soon-to-be-announced most determined player Courtney Petalas in possession.

All players made significant contributions, with the main scorers being Petalas with 17, Lisa Rennie with 10, and Zoe Simmons and Myka Johnston with six each.

The second Warrandyte premiership was secured by Ian Wood's Under-14 boys taking out the North West Conference Division 1 grand final by defeating Werribee 43-28 at Keilor.

This was a game of player management, six of the Redback eight having played in their domestic grand final against Eltham 1 only four hours earlier.

Werribee had defeated Warrandyte during the qualifying season and in a semi-final so they went into the game with plenty of confidence.

Werribee played the 2-1-2 as expected and the Redbacks were having trouble penetrating, the first five minutes producing a combined total of just six points.

The first half was broken up when substitute Josh Blakey made an immediate impact with points of his own and a couple of outlet passes to Tom Fitzpatrick.

What happened next was something of which grand finals are made. David Wood decided to make the outside scoring his own, with three quick-fire three-pointers.

Another finish on a break and the game had been blown open in that five-minute burst, Warrandyte going into the break 12 points up.

The first 10 minutes of the second half started much as the first, with

Werribee making up two points. But player rotations and another couple of outside bombs from Wood (to take him up to 15 points), along with some great boards from Josh Blakey, Ian McLeod and Fitzpatrick, put paid to any prospect of a Werribee revival.

Peter Whittingham and Gavin Yates played great games controlling the ball and the point area and the number one spot in defence.

Ryan Holloway was also outstanding, particularly in defence against the big Werribee boys.

MVP went to Josh Blakey, who stood tall again in a mighty team effort.

Not quite so successful were Damian Arsenis's Under-12 Metro 2 boys, who dipped out at the preliminary final stage. They'd entered the finals as the second top team behind Keilor and a five-point win over Cranbourne in the first final was fair reward for a good all-round team effort. The much awaited rematch with Keilor was the following Sunday.

But it wasn't to be Warrandyte's day. They were "shell-shocked" as Keilor thundered down on them, too slick, too accurate and too focused in a stunning display to take out the qualifying final by a whopping 34-points.

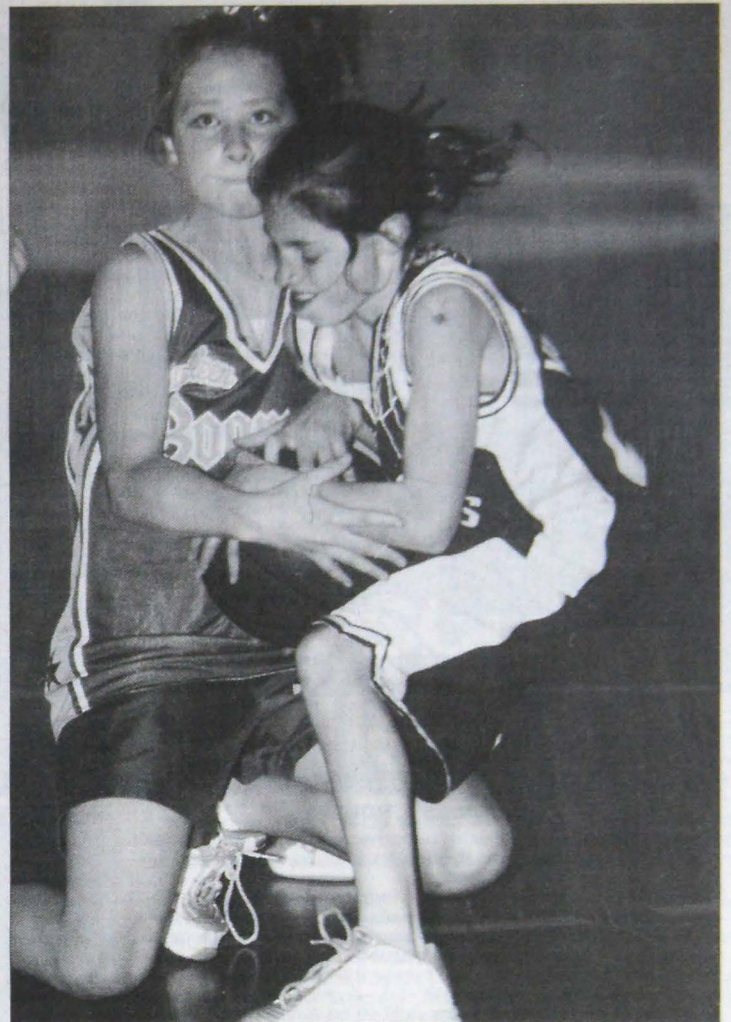
The Redbacks faced the Waverley Falcons, whom they'd beaten by 24 and 16 points during the season, in the preliminary final, so confidence was not in short supply despite the poor showing against Keilor.

But the Falcons jumped them, running to a 17-0 lead within the opening seven minutes.

After two time-outs and numerous substitutions, the Redbacks finally managed a counter-attack led by Jordan Beltramin and Lachlan Chapman. Through Chapman's stifling defence, Beltramin was able to unload on three consecutive three-pointers to cut the deficit back to single figures.

The Redbacks came out strongly after the break with some fast break opportunities and a three-point play, but other easy baskets went begging.

Late three-pointers by Beltramin and Zac Brodrick were not enough as the Redbacks fell by 11.



Above: Livewire Redback Zoe Simmons wrestles for the ball with a Bulleen opponent during the Under-12 Metro girls grand final. Below: And the winners are ... Warrandyte! Back row (from left): Brittany Parsons, Nicolette Prior, Harriet Rappell, Zanetta Hosking, coach Lorraine Parfitt. Front: Myka Johnson, Lisa Rennie, Courtney Petalas, Zoe Simmons, Carly Bensch.



Saturday's stars land the big half-dozen

The Warrandyte Redbacks took 16 teams into the grand finals of the EDJBA Saturday competition on September 13 and came home with six premierships.

The triumphant teams were:

- The Under-19 A-grade girls coached by Nick Peters.

- Gavin Whitmore's Under-15AR boys.

- The Under-15 B-grade girls of Paul Sleeth.

- The Under-13 C-grade boys coached by Brian Robertson.

- Emma Collins Under-11 C-grade girls.

- Jack Ratcliffe's Under-9 B-grade boys.

Runners-up were:

- Malcolm Anderson's Under-15 C-grade boys.

- The Under-15 B-grade boys of Andrew Petalas.

- Tony Farren's Under-15 D-grade girls (who lost only two games all season — the semi-final and the grand final).

- Ann Mulcahy's Under-13 C-grade girls.

- The Under-13 A-grade boys of Paul Whittingham.

- Lorraine Parfitt's Under-11 A-grade girls.

- Sharon Bensch's Under-9 AR girls.

- The Under-9 C-grade boys coached by Frank Gatti.

- Greg Pearson's Under-9 D-grade boys.

- Bryce Petalas' Under-9 D-grade boys.

The Under-19 girls had a score to settle with Nunawading after finishing minor premiers but lowering their colours to that team in a close semi-final two weeks before the big one.

And they did it a thriller at Balwyn High School.

Warrandyte easily won their preliminary final to set up the rematch, but were missing key players Elissia Demitris (shin splints) and Melinda Walsham (overseas).

The Redbacks were always in control of the first half but Nunawading were able to keep themselves in the game.

Warrandyte had threatened to open it up with a three-point shot by point guard Kim Singh, but this was quickly answered with the last score of the first half to send the Redbacks in with a five-point advantage.

Warrandyte edged further ahead after the resumption, helped in no small way by a strong guard performance from Jess Kemp, but a critical turnover late in the game allowed Nunawading to close to five points again, at which point Redbacks coach Nick Peters called a time out to settle his charges down.

On the restart, a tense, see-sawing struggle began.

Nunawading briefly grabbed the lead, but first Stef Smith and then Kim Singh put Warrandyte back in front.

Nunawading, though, were finding the

target with their shooting and regained the lead with just under a minute to play.

In the critical final seconds, Casey Hawley drove into the key but was blocked. The ball came out to Sam Smith for the winning goal.

Nunawading missed with one desperate final shot and with Bec Parsons with the rebound, the Redbacks prevailed 41-40 to keep the premiership in Warrandyte.

Every Redback player was on the scoresheet, Hawley leading with 12, followed by the ever-reliable Singh with eight and Kemp and Stef Smith with seven each.

In another highlight game, the Under-15 AR boys were determined to atone for their poor showing against Balwyn 1 in the semi-final and looked the winners from the outset.

They ran in 13 points before Balwyn opened their account.

Although Balwyn mounted a charge late in the first half, Warrandyte looked the better team.

They drove strongly to the basket in the second half, Mitchell Hawley went to the line to sink six from seven and Hamish Hosking was dominant on the boards and scored from long range.

Still, Balwyn refused to go away. They hit the front and for a while looked likely to pinch it. But they found themselves in early foul trouble, with Jake Ratcliffe stepping to the line to make one from two to draw level with five

minutes on the clock. Balwyn committed more reaching fouls, sending Warrandyte to line three more times and, with the clock running down, the Redbacks ran to a five-point advantage.

A late basket from Shane Holloway and a bonus took it to eight points and game over, 44-36.

The Under-11 AR girls of Lorraine Parfitt, who were involved in the finals of the Friday night competition later in the evening, had to be content with a runners-up flag.

Warrandyte started slowly against Doncats, but a late surge before the break saw them take the lead when Courtney Petalas passed to fellow guard Zoe Simmons for a basket.

Midway through the second half, the Redbacks looked to have the game in their keeping with three unanswered baskets, but the Doncats upped the tempo to take the lead.

Late goals to Nicolette Prior and a free throw to Myka Johnston were not enough and Doncats won 29-25.

It was a similar result for Sharon Bensch's Under-9 girls, who went down 21-17 to Park Orchards.

Late goals to Casey Taylor and Sam Bingham kept Warrandyte in the hunt, but Park Orchards were always able to reply.

Warrandyte's Under-13 A boys came up against Eltham 1 in one of the few finals involving a Redback side to be played at Warrandyte Community

Sports Centre. It was a big ask against the best in the competition but

Warrandyte were right in the game, drawing level just before the break.

Eltham, however, were able to apply scoreboard pressure to take a 26-19 lead into the interval and draw away in the second half.

Again displaying their fighting qualities, Warrandyte came back from 12 points down with five minutes to go to be within six with two minutes still on the clock. Gavin Yates was particularly effective in the fast breaks for Warrandyte.

A time out by Eltham allowed the visitors to steady and Warrandyte were punished thereafter as they tried to put pressure on the ball handler, eventually going down 51-37.

Yates led the scoring for Warrandyte with 14 followed by Ben Power with 10. Tom Fitzpatrick was named most determined player.

Warrandyte had three Under-9 boys teams in the grand finals, Jake Ratcliffe's B-graders going all the way with a 26-24 win over Bulleen.

Both other Under-9 units were gallant in defeat. Bryce Petalas' boys went down 6-4 to Eltham in a game highlighted by Harrison Gunst's first basket of the season.

And despite an 11-3 losing scoreline, also against Eltham, Greg Pearson's Under-9 DC boys fought tenaciously and will be very much the better for this season's experience.

Bloods' new guard



Phil Treeby

By LEE TINDALE

There will be a considerable changing of the guard at Warrandyte Football Club's annual general meeting, probably in November or early December.

Noel Taplin, president for the past two years, is not seeking re-election and is expected to be succeeded by vice-president Phil Treeby.

Also stepping down is treasurer Jeff Evans, who was president from 1996-2001. And there will be at least two vacancies on the committee in the absence of retiring members Evans and Lawrie Sloan.

Treeby, 49 and the father of senior player Matt, is likely to be elected to the chair unopposed.

He is particularly keen to see players and recently-retired players on the new committee.

"I'd be looking towards current players and those recently retired to take an active

interest in the direction of their club," he told the *Diary*.

"I think that's the way the club can go forward."

Treeby, along with Sloan and fellow-committeeman Brian Williams, were responsible for the resurrection this year of an Under-18s side in a joint and likely ongoing venture with Doncaster East Football Club.

"I thank Doncaster East for their cooperation and particularly thank the two Under-18 coaches, Shaun Wilson and Jim Kilsby," he said.

"I also thank Noel, Jeff and Lawrie for the great work they have done for this club.

"Sincere thanks, too, to our sponsors and we look forward to their ongoing support."

Of the Bloods' 2003 season, he said: "All in all, I was happy with the year, especially to see all three sides in the finals for the first time.

"So there's not too much wrong with the club. We must build on what we achieved last season."

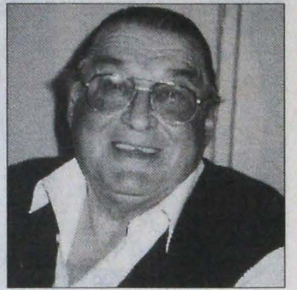
Referring to Warrandyte's disappointing exit from this year's finals, outgoing president Taplin, who will be a candidate for the committee, described the 2004 season as "a time to complete unfinished business".

● Applications for the Bloods' senior coaching job closed on October 3. The club hope to announce the appointment at Presentation Night at Club Warrandyte on Friday, October 17.

The position was advertised in accordance with policy and Scott Hunter, coach for the past two seasons, is among the applicants.

Tickets for Presentation Night are \$30, or \$50 a double, and can be booked through secretary James Riley (0411 223418) or president Taplin (9723 6103).

Another 'gong' for our Sloanie



Lawrie Sloan

Decorations continue to come the way — and very rightly so — of Lawrie Sloan, the most recognisable face of Warrandyte football.

The Bloods' longest-serving president (11 years) and a member of the EFL executive for 10 years, Sloan was last month named Community Club Member Of The Year after a state-wide search for the outstanding football stalwart.

The award, sponsored by TXU and run by Football Victoria, was conducted on a monthly basis throughout the VFL season and Sloan, nominated by the Warrandyte Football Club committee, was winner of the April "heat", entitling him to consideration for the overall outright honour.

As winner of that, he was a guest at the VFL's official grand final luncheon at Optus Oval on September 21 and was presented with his award at half-time in the televised game between Williamstown and the Box Hill Hawks.

He received a plaque, a certificate and \$500 worth of TXU power.

"It was very gratifying to win the award and Williamstown, whom I'd supported since I was a kid, made it an even bigger day for me by winning the premiership," he said.

Sloan's association with the Bloods goes back 52 years.

At age 12 he was running the boundary for Warrandyte, was a member our original Reserves side and has served in a multitude of capacities — from president to umpires escort — since.

He has sat on WFC and EFL committees continuously since 1967 and last year was granted one of the league's highest honours, its Recognition of Service Award.

Sloan has decided to take a break from general committees next season, but will continue to chair the past players group.

To say "Well played, Sloanie" doesn't nearly do him justice.

— LEE TINDALE

It's well worth three-peating!

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

Jordan and Alex Beltramin made Warrandyte Junior Football Club history last year as the first brothers to win best and fairest awards in the same season.

Next year, they're going for the unheard-of hat-trick! Under-10 and Under-13 club champions respectively in 2002, Jordan and Alex merely stepped up an age division apiece last season to take the top honours again.

And who's to say they won't make it a "three-peat" at Under-12 and Under-15 level in 2004?

Young Jordan got out of his sickbed on August 31 to captain — in shocking conditions — the Under-11s in the Yarra Junior Football League grand final against Kew.

He'd been off school for a week with the flu — but that didn't stop him kicking the winning point! And having won the premiership off his own boot, he went back to bed for another week.

Both Jordan and Alex (vice-captain of the Under-14s) aspire to playing AFL football — if their other sporting loves don't get in the way.

Jordan, an Andersons Creek Primary School student, is a Warrandyte Redbacks basketball player with great potential and his big brother, who attends Marcellin College, a leading junior at the local tennis club.

"They are both natural athletes," said proud mother Lina. "Whatever sport they take up they excel at.

"They certainly give it their all."

And are there any other budding champions lurking in the Beltramin household in Carol Court? Maybe.

Eight-year-old Ellie has just started basketball. So watch this space.



Above: Jordan (left) and Alex Beltramin with their best and fairest booty last season. Above right: Twelve months older now, but nothing else has changed. They're still the pick of their respective bunches.



Juniors kick on to reap their rewards

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

Warrandyte Junior Football Club celebrated one of their best seasons at presentation days last month.

At well-attended functions, parents and other supporters came together to congratulate the players on jobs very well done and culminating in two premierships.

Ryan Exon was adjudged best and fairest in Greg Edwards' Under-10s, with Darcy Jones and Johnny Dobbie runners-up.

Other trophy winners were Alistair Douglas (most improved), Taylor Hayton (most courageous), Adrian Mifsud (most consistent) and Daniel Tester (most determined).

Jordan Beltramin won best and fairest in the Under-11 premiership team coached by Clem Mifsud, ahead of Ethan Hale-Vaughan and Thomas Appleby.

The coaches award, best team player, most courageous and encouragement awards went to Jake McKee, Zac Broderick, Charlie Bullard and Lachlan Moyes respectively.

In Wayne Moore's Under-12s, Andrew Bird took best and fairest ahead of Sam Casey, Tristan Valentino and Trent Parker.

Matthew Falkingham was named most improved, with Rhys Aldenhoven (coaches award), Taylor Beaumont (most consistent) and David Beasley (most determined) the other winners.

Competition for top honours in Steve Blakey's

premier Under-13s was almost as tight as the Brownlow Medal count, with every player having a legitimate claim to being best and fairest.

In the end it went to Tom Fitzpatrick, with Michael Whittle, Ben Power and Nathan Gordon runners-up.

Other winners were Clayton Pearce (most improved), Matthew Versteegen (coaches award) and Jeremy Andrews (most courageous).

Alex Beltramin made it a family double again by winning best and fairest and most courageous in the Under-14s, with Nick Meade and Tyson Fitzgerald runners-up.

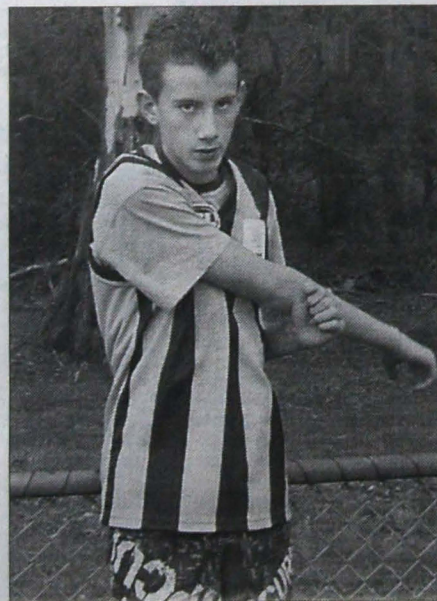
Most improved went to Justin Hull, best team player to Daniel Large and most determined to Peter Cudmore.

Captain Luke Ebzery was named best and fairest in the Under-15s, just ahead of Hamish Hosking and Dion Mullett-Treloar.

Rising star Joe O'Mara took most improved and Paul Burgoyne most consistent. Dave Wildsmith (coaches award) and Rick Curtis (most courageous) were the other trophy winners.

Stephen Christopher was named Colts best and fairest at their own presentation night at the Grand Hotel. He scored from Rob Illingworth, Jarrod Boyce and Jordan Canham.

Other players decorated were John Burgoyne (most determined), Dylan Matheou (most consistent), Jared Fitzpatrick (coaches award) and Lee Evans (most valuable).



Powerhouse

Ben Power (left) limbers up for the Yarra Junior Football League finals — and what a series the young tall had!

Warrandyte's Under-13s kicked a total of 25 goals in their premiership-winning campaign and Ben booted 13 of them.

"He was untouchable during the finals," said coach Steve Blakey.

This is your life

Damian Arsenis has been made a life member of Warrandyte Basketball Association.

The honour, recognising 20 years service since age seven as a player, coach, referee and official — including two years as president — was conferred at Presentation Day last month.

Arsenis was also the recipient of the Tom Hay Memorial Award for outstanding service.

Ann Cousins won the coaches award, Mandy Ratcliffe was named clubperson of the year and Matt Camm was recognised for an outstanding contribution from a junior.

● A feast of flags — Page 21

Hawks up and away!

Souths at home in the elite league

By LEE TINDALE

South Warrandyte have made a big start to their maiden season in the Ringwood District Cricket Association's elite Chandler Shield competition.

Seeking to become the first club to win all three RDCA premier divisions in the space of three seasons, the Hawks were well placed at stumps on the first day of the new season on October 4 to start their campaign with an away win over seasoned campaigners Mooroolbark.

South Warrandyte sent Mooroolbark in and restricted them to a very gettable 7-216 from the regulation 80 overs.

Their star was medium-pace Cain Hartrup, who lived right up to his reputation for accuracy and economy to finish with 5-57 off 24 overs.

Mooroolbark were rescued from a shaky 2-29 by a 93-run third-wicket partnership, but were never able to master a Hawks attack which concentrated on line and length.

The second eleven batted themselves into a commanding position against Mooroolbark, 7-262 after the first day, Darren Johnson leading the way with 56 and Josh Barrett unbeaten on 40.

The thirds, who were to open their season at home at Colman Park, did not play because the newly-laid bowlers' run-ups — part of considerable ground improvements by Manningham council to conform with Chandler Shield standards — were not yet ready for cricket.



South Warrandyte president Barry Williams surveys the new, improved Colman Park ground.

SPORT

But the fourth eleven already have premiership points on the board, cruising to 2-80 in their one-day fixture after bowling Norwood out for 76.

This was quite a day's play for all-rounder Paul Milne, who took 3-23, held two catches and was 52 not out in the Hawks' response.

It was also a big day for spinner Paul Garrett, who took 4-6 off six overs.

"A great start to our first Chandler Shield season," said SWCC president Barry Williams.

"The boys conducted themselves very well in the firsts and seconds and the fourths already have a win on the board.

"The exciting thing is the youth in this club," he said. "Things are looking very healthy."

South Warrandyte's emergence from obscurity to become a major player in the RDCA has been quite phenom-

enal. Languishing for years in the cellar divisions, the Hawks made a name for themselves two seasons ago by winning the Newey Shield undefeated under new captain-coach Scott Brasher, who then led them to last year's Wilkins Shield premiership.

Souths may yet field five senior teams this season. A proposed Under-17s competition has not come to pass and the Hawks are considering fielding young players who were to represent them at that level as a senior side.

● Tickets are still available for the club's karaoke night at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Saturday, October 11. They can be booked on 9879 9342.

Details:

Firsts: South Warrandyte v Mooroolbark 7-216 (Hartrup 5-57, Garner 1-30, Callaghan 1-38).

Seconds: South Warrandyte 7-262 (Johnson 56, J. Barrett 40) v Mooroolbark.

Thirds: Did not play.

Fourth: South Warrandyte 2-80 (Milne 52 n.o.) d Norwood 76 (P. Garrett 4-6, Milne 3-23).



Cain Hartrup: 5-57 against Mooroolbark.

It's déjà vu as Dytes stick to the script

It was a clear case of déjà vu for Warrandyte Cricket Club in the opening round of the Ringwood District season on October 4.

For the second successive season, the first eleven were drawn to play a one-day game at St Andrews first up — and the scripts were almost identical.

St Andrews scored 8-134 against an undisciplined attack and Warrandyte were bowled out for 84. Last season, the Dytes were bundled out for 54 and a similarly-undisciplined attack allowed St Andrews to score 170.

But while the senior team were well beaten again, the seconds, thirds and fourths all won.

The performance of the fourth eleven was outstanding as the team are made up of the fathers of junior players and their sons.

They dismissed Knox City for 121, Under-13s bowler Chris Barry starring with 3-10. Warrandyte reached their target with two wickets to spare.

The senior match was played on a very slow outfield with runs at a premium.

The opening attack of Gerald Walshe and Campbell Holland struck quickly to have the home side 2-12 but then some wayward bowling by Holland and new coach Ian Broome released the pressure as 15 wides and no-balls were racked up.

To their credit, both Holland and Broome returned for much better second spells, with Broome picking up two successive wickets.

Walshe was his usual tidy self with 1-19 off his allotted eight overs and veteran spinner Robert White duplicated those figures.

Leg-spinner Adam Beardall also picked up a wicket and again demonstrated his ability to perform well in one-day games.

The highlight of the St Andrews' innings was the fielding of the Warrandyte side, who held their catches and also completed two run-outs.

Set just over three runs an over to win, Warrandyte struggled from the start against an attack that bowled an accurate line and conceded only three sundries.

Daniel Wellesley was dismissed early and Andrew Jarvis found it difficult to pierce the field and lost his wicket to leave Warrandyte at 2-12 — exactly the same start as their opponents. But St Andrews continued to bowl to a plan and despite captain Dave Mooney's aggressive 24 and a big-hearted unbeaten 15 from Dean Gidley, Warrandyte never threatened the target.

The Dytes are hoping last season continues to repeat itself as they front up to newly-relegated South Croydon in a one-day match at home on October 11.

Last season Warrandyte fought back from a poor opening round to defeat eventual premiers South Warrandyte.

A bright light for Warrandyte was the performance of the second XI, which had a big win, highlighted by the batting of young players Matthew Sazenis and Justin Cleaves.

Sazenis, who captained the Under-16s two seasons ago, played with District club Fitzroy-Doncaster last year but has returned to Warrandyte and looks certain to press for senior selection.

Cleaves, who finished his Under-16 career last season, has shown good form in the seconds in the past and his 45 when opening the batting is certain to put pressure on first eleven players.

Tyson Brent was also solid with 37 and looks ready to press for senior selection.

The thirds were celebrating after a decisive win over North Croydon. Winless last season, they are a stronger side this time with a good mixture of younger and older players and can look forward to a successful campaign.

Travis Cloke starred with the bat with 52 while Charlie Wright, a visitor from England, was unbeaten on 36 in his first game with the club.

Details:

Firsts: Warrandyte 85 (Mooney 24) lost to St Andrews 134.

Seconds: Warrandyte 7-186 (Sazenis 60, Cleaves 45, Brent 37) d St Andrews 131 (Kocijan 2-25, Cleaves 2-19, Sazenis 2-20, C. Lincoln 2-29).

Thirds: Warrandyte 6-162 (T. Cloke 52, Wright 36 n.o.) d Croydon North 65 (E. Cauchi 3-5, Prangley 2-4).

Fourth: Warrandyte 8-122 (Bence 35) d Knox City 121 (Barry 3-10, L. Dehmel 2-22).

Tania puts her future on ice!

By LEE TINDALE

Tania Gavranic is the first to admit that ice hockey — particularly girls ice hockey — is not big in this country.

But if this local teenager realises her dream, she'll be playing for Australia and professionally in Canada, the global home of the sport.

For one so diminutive, Tania — 15 and in Year 10 at Warrandyte High School — has taken giant strides on the ice since she first became interested in the game two years ago.

And for that interest she can thank older brother Mark, who saw ice hockey being played during a school excursion to the old Ringwood rink.

He came home full of praise for what he'd just seen and the enthusiasm was infectious. Tania checked it out for herself — and a love affair was born.

The high point of Tania's young career came with her selection in the Victorian team for the recent open-age interstate championship in Perth.

"All states and territories except Tasmania and the Northern Territory took part," she said. Victoria finished fourth, behind South Australia.

The ice hockey season runs from autumn through winter and that involves Tania, of Tindal's Road, training for eight hours every Sunday at Oakleigh, where her competition is based.

She hopes to make the Australian team next year and although ice



Tania Gavranic: Sights are set on a professional ice hockey career in Canada.

hockey is not on our Winter Olympics agenda at the moment, it just might be by the time Tania's time arrives.

In the meantime, a professional ice hockey career in Canada remains a burning ambition — with the total back-

ing of her family. And how did Tania feel when she first carried a hockey stick on to the ice a couple of years ago?

"A bit uncomfortable," she said, "but it quickly became natural to me."

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Wilson McDougall



THINKING OF SELLING IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS

For most people selling the family home is stressful. It makes sense to take as much time as possible to consider all the WHAT IF's, and have all questions answered prior to making a decision to sell.

Here at Wilson McDougall we are proud that many Warrandyte home owners call us months in advance to receive our FREE WARRANDYTE MARKET REPORT.

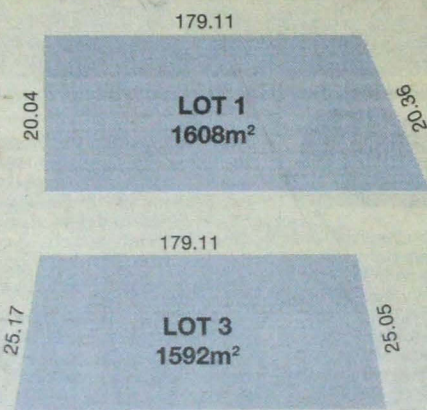
There is no obligation, we will simply try and answer all the questions you may have about the home selling process. Call Andrew Wilson to receive your free report.



A SLICE OF HEAVEN

AUCTION 25 October at 2pm

The whole family will feel like they're on holiday in this heartfelt 1 acre homestead with Yarra River frontage, showcasing everything from the floodlit mod grass tennis court, solar heated swimming pool/spa with outdoor entertaining area and sauna to the exotic gardens and gazebo. And with four living rooms, 4 bedrooms, study, spa bathroom, ensuite and more this is your own slice of heaven.



SLOAN'S HILL

AUCTION Saturday 25 October at 11am

Three magnificent 1/3 acre allotments offering fantastic views and Yarra frontage. LOT 1 - Offering views over the Warrandyte Valley and Yarra River frontage, this private allotment of 1608sqm is within walking distance of the Warrandyte Village, mature gardens and a stunning home site, you complete the picture. LOT 2 - A solid brick and bluestone home offering 2BRs, spacious lounge/dining, kitchen/meals and large rear entertaining deck. Within river frontage and stunning valley views, this property on 1731sqm is a rare find and would ideally suit the first home buyer or investor. inspect today. LOT 3 - River frontage and within a stone's throw of the Village, this appealing north facing 1592sqm allotment offers opportunity to build your dream home capturing the views of the Warrandyte Hills, established gardens - a rare opportunity.



WARRANDYTE

\$670,000

Set on 1 acre, this stunning open plan executive home features full length picture windows, slate & timber flooring, cedar linings, Daniel Robertson bricks, stunning views of the Dandenongs. 4BRs, study, large formal & informal living areas, spa room, dble garage all on the banks of the Yarra River.



WARRANDYTE

\$500,000+

On 3 private acres, a substantial solid brick cape cod home offers 5 double BRs, 2 bathrooms, sunken lounge, formal dining, study, kitchen/meals and generous family room. Features include Dorma windows, double garage and portico and magnificent views of the hills.



WARRANDYTE

\$395,000

Conveniently located this family home comprises 3BRs, ensuite, rumpus, all on 1/3 acre (approx).



WARRANDYTE

\$900,000

A magical rolling 10 acres offering an elevated northerly aspect. Two road frontages & stunning new home sites.



WARRANDYTE

\$230,000

A stunning half acre allotment offering the opportunity to build your dream home with north facing views.



WARRANDYTE

\$620,000

Set on a near level 1 acre opposite Warrandyte State Park. 4BRs, ensuite, rumpus, dbl garage and landscaped gardens.

Supporting our local community

OPEN 7 DAYS TILL 7PM

Call us now for a FREE market appraisal



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